

SOCCER

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LIONS BATTLE TO RETAIN YOUNG STARS

BRISBANE LIONS look set to face another end-of-season battle to retain their talented young stars.

Several Lions players were again approached by Melbourne club officials after the Brisbane side played a scoreless draw with national champions South Melbourne in Melbourne last week.

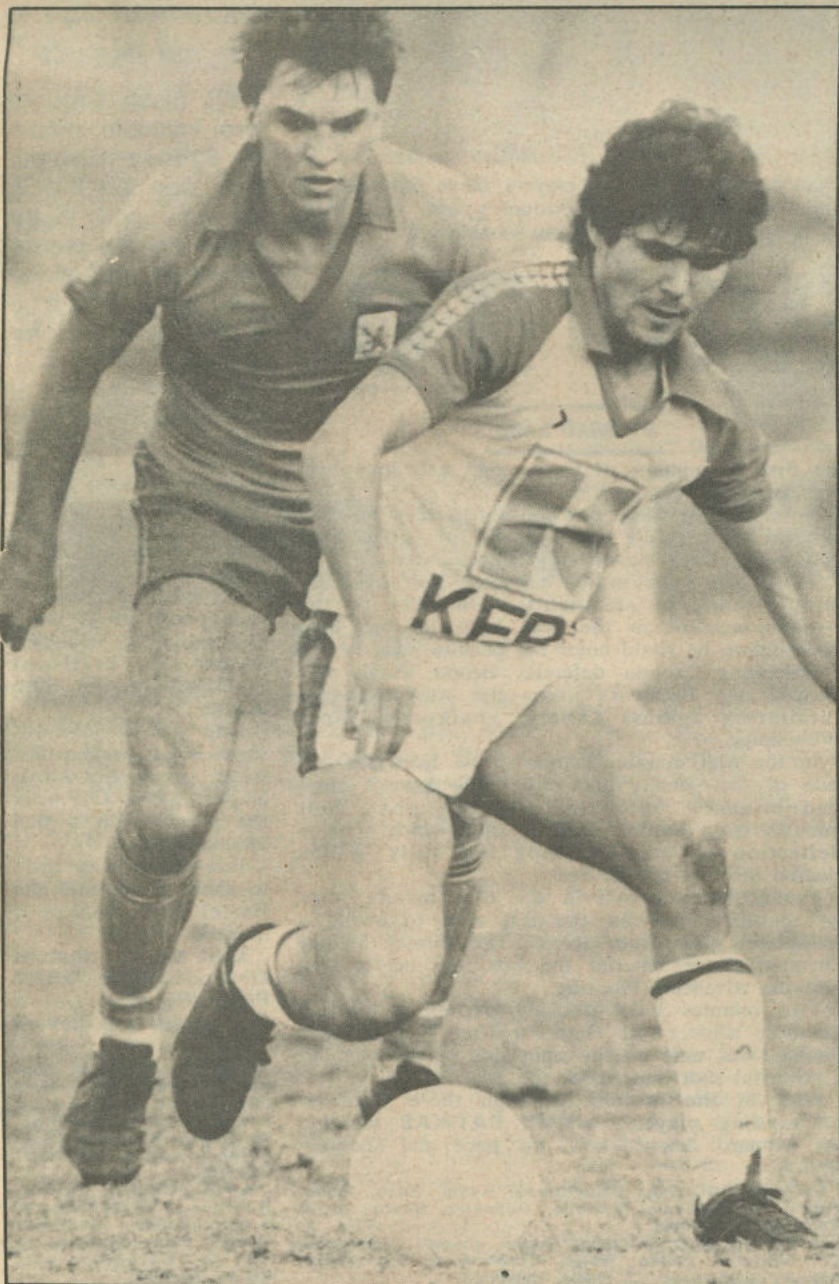
"They are certainly not shy. They just walk up to our players after the match and start making promises," a Lions official said.

BY GREG RUSSELL

Lions fought doggedly during the past off-season to retain Alan Hunter and Steve Jackson, who were the subject of luring offers from Heidelberg and Melbourne Croatia.

Hunter was transfer-listed at \$30,000 in a bid to turn away the attention, but the Heidelberg officials scarcely blinked.

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ALAN HUNTER (rear), the Brisbane Lions player who has been the subject of approaches from Melbourne NSL clubs, watches Wollongong City's Alex Bundak

ROGERS RETURN BOOSTS OLYMPIC

MARTYN ROGERS, Sydney Olympic's star 25-year-old right-back, has returned from England to boost Sydney Olympic's weakened NSL squad.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Rogers, a Manchester United product, played with Sydney Olympic in seasons 1983-84 but returned to England during the off-season.

With sweeper Tony Dakos recovering from a cartilage operation and the unfortunate leg-break suffered by stand-in sweeper Nick Theodorakopoulos against Wollongong City yesterday, Sydney Olympic's back-four situation has become critical.

It is expected Rogers will be immediately rushed back into the Olympic defence for the semi-final NSL Cup clash on Wednesday night against Cup-holders Newcastle Rosebud — possibly in the role of libero.

Whilst in England, Rogers played with semi-professional side Eastwood Town, on the outskirts of Nottingham.

"I feel pretty good and to be honest am looking forward to getting back into NSL football," Rogers said.

In the past two seasons, Rogers and fellow Englishman Mike Coady supplied stability, experience and direction to the Sydney Olympic defence.

The two Englishmen were largely responsible for Olympic finishing second in the NSL Northern Division and defeating champions Sydney City in the Grand Final last year.

Olympic's championship aspirations will skyrocket if Coady also returns to Australia, as is rumoured.

Coady, an excellent stopper and former England First Division player with Sunderland, also returned to

England at the end of last season and joined Second Division Wolverhampton, managed by Tommy Docherty.

Our information is that the ever-reliable, softly spoken Coady — arguably the NSL's best stopper over the past two years — would prefer to travel back to Australia than journey down to Third Division at the end of this month with Wolves.

Dakos, another Olympic star defender, is ready to make his comeback for the blue and whites.

Dakos underwent surgery to the lateral and medial cartilages in his knee three weeks ago.



MARTYN ROGERS

SPECIAL ASW OFFER TO JUNIOR PLAYERS: SEE PAGE 13

All the NSL action — Northern Division

NSL RESULTS

NSL NORTHERN DIVISION

ROUND 5 (Easter Monday):
SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (Phillips, Soper) APIA LEICH-
HARDT 1 (Morsello) at Pratten Park. Crowd: 6,888.

ROUND 6:
WOLLONGONG CITY 1 (Giannone) SYDNEY OLYMPIC
2 (Svinos, Kalantzis) at Wollongong Showground.
Crowd: 1,375.

SYDNEY CITY 0 PENRITH CITY 1 (Hunter) at Sydney
Athletic Field. Crowd: 1,095.

BLACKTOWN CITY 4 (Wheatley, O'Connor, Larkin,
McKie) NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD 0 at Gabbie Stadium.
Crowd: 690.

SYDNEY CROATIA 2 (Odzakov, Patikas) INTER MO-
NARO 0 at King Tomislav Park. Crowd: 4,738.

CANBERRA CITY 0 ST GEORGE 1 (J. O'Shea) at Bruce
Stadium. Crowd: 1,215.

APIA LEICHHARDT 4 (Colagiuri 2, Caban, McCulloch)
MARCONI 1 (Jankovics) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 3,451.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney Croatia	6	4	1	1	13	7	9
Sydney City	6	4	0	2	15	8	8
Apia Leichhardt	6	4	0	2	13	9	8
Blacktown City	6	4	0	2	9	5	8
Sydney Olympic	6	4	0	2	6	4	8
Canberra City	6	2	3	1	9	6	7
Marconi	6	2	3	1	10	11	7
Penrith City	6	2	2	2	6	4	6
St George	6	2	1	3	5	5	5
Wollongong City	6	2	0	4	11	17	4
Newcastle Rosebud	6	0	2	4	5	14	2
Inter Monaro	6	0	0	6	4	16	0

NSL SOUTHERN DIVISION

ROUND 5 (Easter Monday):
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 3 (Cullen, Incantalupo,
Petersen) FOOTSCRAY 2 (Stojilovic, Tapai) at Olympic
Park. Crowd: 1,500.

ROUND 6:
MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 WEST ADELAIDE 0 at Olym-
pic Park. Crowd: 1,500.

BRISBANE LIONS 0 BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 0 at Rich-
lands. Crowd: 1,174.

HEIDELBERG UTD 1 (Winn) GREEN GULLY 3 (Campbell,
Lewis) at Heidelberg. Crowd: 1,500.

FOOTSCRAY 1 (Lazopoulos) BRISBANE CITY 3 (Hamil-
ton, Fabrizio, Mengotti) at Schintler Reserve. Crowd:
750.

ADELAIDE CITY 2 (Villani) SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Blair,
McDowell) at Olympic Sports Field. Crowd: 500.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (Latif 2) PRESTON 2
(Smith, Cole) at Chaplin Reserve. Crowd: 4,100.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Melbourne	6	3	3	0	11	7	9
Melbourne Croatia	6	3	2	1	9	3	8
Heidelberg Utd	6	3	2	1	10	5	8
Preston	6	3	2	1	10	7	8
Brunswick Juve	6	2	3	1	7	6	7
Sunshine GC	6	2	3	1	5	5	7
Green Gully	6	2	2	2	9	7	6
West Adelaide	6	2	2	2	5	5	6
Brisbane Lions	6	2	2	2	4	4	6
Brisbane City	6	1	2	3	5	8	4
Adelaide City	6	0	3	3	7	13	3
Footscray	6	0	0	6	5	15	0

TOP SCORERS

8 — Egan (SM)
5 — Lewis (GG), Arnold (S. Cro), Jankovics (M)
4 — Coligiuri (AL), Latif (SGC), Farina (S. City)

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE

ST GEORGE 2 AIS 2 (Polak, Hristodoulou)

SYDNEY CROATIA 3 (Lerotic, Caleta, Medanic) INTER
MONARO 2 (Monterosso, Menong)

SYDNEY CITY 6 (P. Falconer 3, Patterson 3) PENRITH
CITY 0

WOLLONGONG CITY 5 (Corridini 2 Nees, Brown,
Baker) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Mellisourgos)

APIA LEICHHARDT 2 (Beddoni, Van Blerk) MARCONI 0

BLACKTOWN CITY 1 (P. Quarmby) NEWCASTLE ROSE-
BUD 3 (Mason, Perrin, McGuinness)

CANBERRA CITY 4 (Perinovic 2, Farrell, Mazis) ST
GEORGE 1 (Watson)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canberra City	6	5	1	0	16	7	11
Sydney City	6	4	2	0	21	1	10
AIS	5	2	3	0	14	9	8
Wollongong City	6	4	0	2	13	9	8
Apia Leichhardt	6	3	2	1	9	6	8
St George	7	3	2	2	12	12	8
Newcastle Rosebud	6	3	1	2	10	7	7
Blacktown City	6	3	1	2	9	7	7
Sydney Olympic	7	1	3	3	6	13	5
Sydney Croatia	6	1	2	3	9	13	4
Marconi	6	0	3	3	9	13	3
Inter Monaro	7	1	1	5	9	24	3
Penrith City	8	0	1	7	8	24	1

'SUPERMAC' RULES!

LEICHHARDT..... 4 MARCONI..... 1

BY TOM ANDERSON

APIA LEICHHARDT now hold pride of place in the Sydney Italian community after a blockbusting display of all-action football against arch-rivals Marconi at Lambert Park yesterday.

And rightly so, because Fil Bottalico's boys wiped the floor with the Fairfielders to win 4-1 in a match that was rough, tough and exciting throughout.

Certainly Marconi had more than their fair share of injuries and the sending-off of Geoff Gunning in the 57th minute didn't help matters, but at no time did they match Apia in this contest.

Apia, without the suspended Terry Butler, had in midfield the man who controlled the proceedings and stamped his mark on the game — Tommy "Supermac" McCulloch.

The comparison between Supermac and Marconi's Ian Gray was probably the biggest pre-match topic of this clash.

And the outcome? Well it was no contest and McCulloch ended further in front than Phar Lap.

Supermac was in a class of his own and his guile, vision and dexterity in midfield were a joy to behold.

McCulloch is now one of the most accomplished midfielders in Australian soccer and anyone who attempts to dispute this fact must either be blind or akin to an ostrich burying its head in the sand.

But although Supermac pulled all the strings, Apia's win was not by any means

a one-man show — on the contrary it was a tremendous team effort.

Everyone pulled his weight and there was not a weak link in the line-up.

Young Vince Colagiuri helped himself to two fine goals and with a bit more experience and the ability to get himself into the action more here is a player with a big fu-

ture ahead of him.

The same can be said of young defender Carlo Spina who has tonnes of ability.

Marconi shot into the lead in the 14th minute with a goal from Mark Jankovics but then Tommy McCulloch's penalty: 18th minute, Kerry Caban 43rd and Vince Calagiuri 57th and 60th gave Apia their joy day.

Marconi did not play all that badly; it was Apia who played well.

The sending off of young Geoff Gunning did not help their cause but this youngster must learn to curb his impetuosity.

Man of the match: undoubtedly **TOMMY MCCULLOCH**, the midfield general who made his opposition look like rookie privates in a battle where he dictated tactics from start to finish.

APIA: Catlin, Spina (Casacchia 79), Mariani, Rowden, Brown, McCulloch, Bertogna, De Ceglie, Colagiuri, Caban, Morsello (Genovese 69).

MARCONI: McPherson, Carter, Henderson, Calderan, Sterrey, Mason (Reid 75), Gunning, Gray, Jankovics (Driene), Brown, Lowe.

REFEREE: P. Rampley.

CROWD: 3,500.

SYD OLYMPIC..... 2
LEICHHARDT..... 1

BY TOM ANDERSON

THIS clash brought two valuable points to Sydney Olympic who won 2-1 but in no way will it go down on the record books as one of the unforgettable games of the season.

In fact it was one of the most forgettable games I have watched in the NSL and was one big yawn from start to finish.

Gary Phillips put Olympic ahead with a penalty in the 15th minute and the action was dead until only Morsello blasted home a brilliant equaliser in the 80th minute.

But Apia's joy was short-lived and a minute later Marshall Soper gave Olympic the points with a fine individual goal.

But there was little to shout about and the Easter fare was poor indeed.

Man of the match: Olympic's little **GARY PHILLIPS** who put a few passes together at least.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Londo, Johnston (Kalantzis 69), Theodorakopoulos, Lampropoulos, Jennings, Phillips, Raskopoulos, Svinos, Soper, Koussas, Katholos.

APIA: Catlin, Spina, Rowden, Bertogna, Brown, Butler, Hamilton (Mariani 64), McCulloch, De Ceglie (Colagiuri 68), Caban, Morsello.

REFEREE: G. Power.
CROWD: 6,888.



TOMMY MCCULLOCH gets caught between Marconi players Steve Calderan (No 5) and Ian Reid at Lambert Park. However, McCulloch's new club, Apia Leichhardt, finished up on top against his old team-mates, winning 4-1.

DRAGICEVIC TO RETURN

BY BRAD EARL

the first 20 minutes of the second half they held possession for long periods.

However, the NSL new boys lacked a midfield general who could take control of proceedings and their attacks looked very uncoordinated.

Tony Brennan made a break in the 50th minute, but, in an identical incident to the Patikas incident in the first half, he was held back before he could enter the penalty area.

Offending Croatia defender Bruno Vidaic was booked and Brennan's name also was taken for retaliating against Croatia goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse.

In the 61st minute, Patikas' cross from the left side of the penalty area hit Wally Savor's chest and bounced onto the crossbar, then four minutes later Patikas took a shot which took a deflection to beat Hocking but Billy Willox cleared the ball off the line.

Patikas finished well in the 67th minute when he scooted away on the left side following a well-placed pass from Rozic. The former Sydney Olympic player entered the box and neatly shot past the advancing Hocking.

Two minutes later Hocking parried a Marijan Kovacic shot, and then in the 79th minute Patikas, this time on the right side of the box, hit a powerful shot that struck the post.

Man of the match: although there were no outstanding players, **JIMMY PATIKAS** worried the Monaro defence with his pace and shooting ability.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse; Basic, Rezo, Rozic, Vidaic; M. Kovacic, Patikas, Odzakov, Savor; Jurin (Tomasich 70), Arnold.

INTER MONARO: Hocking; Budini, Gagetti (Giampaolo 45), Santolin, Titilas; Walsh, Carbone, C. Ambrosino; Brennan (Monterosso 77), Willox, Thamnidis.

REFEREE: G. Power.
CROWD: 4,738.

SYD CROATIA..... 2 INTER MONARO..... 0

SYDNEY CROATIA are set to strengthen their squad even further with the expected return of classy striker Emil Dragicevic from Inter Monaro.

Dragicevic, who emigrated to Australia from Yugoslavia last year with Vedran Rozic and Zeljko Jurin, was a spectator at King Tomislav Park when Croatia accounted for Monaro 2-0.

After struggling through 1984 as relegation candidates, Croatia are now leading the Northern Division after six rounds.

Against Monaro it was star recruits Zarko Odzakov and Jimmy Patikas who scored the goals.

Odzakov netted after just four minutes when he ran on to a well-flighted free-kick from David Rezo, who has been switched to left-back by captain-coach Rozic.

In the 19th minute Tommy Basic played a long ball into the path of Patikas, who was held back outside the penalty area by Angelo Titilas, earning the Monaro defender a yellow card.

A minute before half-time, Graham Arnold played a perfect through-ball for Jurin to beat the defence. However, Jurin delayed his shot too long, Monaro goalkeeper Michael Hocking closed him down and he finally shot high.

Monaro brought on Baz Giampaolo in an attempt to add more skill to their team, and for

All the NSL action — Northern Division

DEMONS AT THE READY FOR KEVIN **PENRITH PULL OFF SHOCK WIN**

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

BLACKTOWN.....4 NEWCASTLE.....0

SYDNEY CITY.....0

PENRITH CITY.....1

BLACKTOWN DEMONS showed they are ready for the arrival of Kevin Keegan by sailing home to a 4-0 win over Newcastle Rosebud at the Gabbie Stadium, after being one goal to the good at half-time.

Having such a wide margin in his favour led coach Casey de Bruin to quip: "With a team like this who needs Keegan?", but in all truth the last three goals only arrived in the final 18 minutes.

In fact Newcastle can thank themselves for not having established a 2-1 or 3-1 lead. They had a glut of possession for 70 minutes and produced nothing from it.

One minute before Rob Wheatley scored Blacktown's first, Derek Todd miscued his shot from right in front and in the 36th minute successive Mike Boogaard headers were knocked onto the bar by goalie Barry Hoare and then saved by him whilst on the ground.

BY KEITH GILMOUR

But Newcastle died completely when Phil O'Connor replaced John Bradley in the 60th minute.

By rights neither should have played. Bradley has achilles tendon trouble and O'Connor was chock full of flu and due to that and other injuries has only trained twice in three weeks.

O'Connor put the icing on the cake after he had been well backed by the capable Wheatley and hard-grafting Stuart Selva.

In the 72nd minute he found himself with loads of space after Selva had put him in possession. He coolly manouvered himself into position and beat Clint Gosling all the way.

Brett Thornthwaite managed an Olympic dive for his penalty but referee Terry Seacy was right to award it as Neil Owens came in with mayhem in his mind.

John Larkin, with one hand wreathed in bandages due to a cricketing accident, put the penalty in off the post.

Then John McKie, signed for \$4,000 from Parramatta Melita, went low to get his head on the end of a Selva pass and bring up the 4-0 scoreline.

McKie only came into the team when Alex Bottalico went off with a knee injury, and his first-up effort was certainly beyond reproach.

Man of the match: ROBBIE WHEATLEY, whose performances for the last five or six weeks should bring him into national squad calculations.

BLACKTOWN: Hoare, Skellern, Bourke, Wheatley, Daley, Selva, Knight, Thornthwaite, Bradley (O'Connor 60), Larkin, McKie.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Boogaard, Owens, Thompson, McQuarrie, Senkalski, Jones, Todd, Stewart, Kerby (Mason 74).

REFEREE: T. Seacy.

CROWD: 690.

PENRITH CITY pulled off the upset of round six of the NSL when they defeated reigning champions Sydney City 1-0 at Sydney Athletic Field.

Penrith proved a stumbling block last year when they held Sydney City to two draws and they seem to have the champions' measure again this year.

Sydney City had some chances in the match, the clearest chance coming three minutes from the end involving John Kosmina and substitute Graeme Fletcher.

But as early as in the fifth minute, Penrith City shook Sydney City when Ian Hunter and Rene Licata set up Ian Wotherspoon with a first-time crack at the target.

Wotherspoon drilled his hit from 15 metres out that crashed onto the base of Tony Pezzano's left post.

Frank Farina, Sydney City's most enterprising performer, latched onto a Murray Barnes chip from the left in the 27th minute to smash a fierce shot

against Penrith's crossbar from 12 metres out.

Three minutes later, Paul Kay went very close with a strong header that zeroed for the bottom right hand corner. But Penrith goalkeeper Mike Gibson did exceptionally well diving sharply to his left to palm Kay's header up against the post and out of danger.

With the scoreline reading 0-0 at half-time, Penrith came out for the second session more determined to get on with the job.

Their "big fella" at the back, Davie McIntosh, did a tight job of holding Sydney City's ace striker Kosmina, winning everything in the air as well as on the floor.

Wotherspoon was calling all the shots from right midfield as Hunter and Brian Jackson up-front did well with the limited ball

supply they received.

The overall key to Penrith's success, though, were the quick shut-downs they executed, denying Sydney City time and space to open up.

In the 72nd minute, Penrith hit the front from a free-kick whipped in by Wotherspoon. The ball came off a Sydney City defender and fell loose in front of Hunter who belted it home in a flash from the left side.

Farina repeatedly raided down the flanks desperately trying to fire his teammates into action.

Three minutes from the end, Farina ripped in a flat cross into Penrith's six yard box. Kosmina, closely followed by Fletcher, both missed a golden chance to slot home from four metres and steal a point.

A disappointed Eddie Thomson said quietly after the match: "We had three good chances and didn't make them stick. As well, most of us didn't exert ourselves and I think next week I will be making two definite changes to meet Olympic."

But in the Penrith

dressing-room, elation prevailed as coach Willie Wallace smiled and quietly stated: "We marked tightly, chased all day and it was good to get both points for the second time this season."

Man of the match: Penrith's big stopper **DAVE MCINTOSH** who held Kosmina, won everything in the air and pushed up into Sydney City's box every available opportunity.

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano; Cant, Gomez, Robertson, De Marigny; Watson, Kay (Rodrigues 78), Barnes; Farina, Kosmina, Lee (Fletcher 65).

PENRITH: Gibson; Brogan, McIntosh, Ainsworth, Cross; Wotherspoon, Campbell, Toohey; Hunter, Jackson, Licata.

REFEREE: A. Owens.

CROWD: 1,039.

SINGLE GOAL WAS ENOUGH

CANBERRA CITY.....0

ST GEORGE.....1

IN a game that always looked as though it would be won by the team that managed to score the one goal, St George took the winning lead in the 65th minute through ex-Canberra star John O'Shea.

The goal capped a 10 minute period of sustained pressure from St George, the only time when either team was dominant.

Robbie Slater might have scored twice during that period. He forced Canberra keeper George Economopoulos, deputising for an injured Anthony Franken, into the save of the match just four minutes before the goal.

After an even but unexciting first half in which each keeper was tested only once, St George managed to make inroads from the midfield down the centre of the park.

By the time Canberra coach Roy Thomson closed the gap by moving Terry Byrne from sweeper to central midfield and bringing Peter Burke off the bench as sweeper, the game had been lost.

Vic Bozanic, replacing Mark Barton in St George's midfield, looked good while his condition lasted. His replacement Pedro Ricoy then added dash.

Peter Stone, who had a quiet day, made the only incisive run. It led to John O'Shea's goal with Slater supplying the final pass.

In the first half, St George hustled harder for the ball while Canberra tried to play a composed passing game.

Tom English, resuming after a groin injury, forced a brilliant save

BY KEN HEALEY

from Terry Greedy in the ninth minute after Hilton Phillips had opened up the St George defence.

At the other end, Economopoulos earned his keep when he dived at Peter Petkovski's feet to smother St George's best first half chance seven minutes later.

Stephen Green looked a likely understudy for the injured Robbie O'Shea as he kept the explosive Manis Lamond fairly quiet after the young striker replaced Ian Gibson.

Canberra need Byrne's strength in midfield and Burke's experience at the back if they are to stay in touch with leading teams.

St George look as though they will progress slowly up the ladder, being hard to score against, but unlikely to score many goals against experienced defences.

Man of the match: St George striker **ROBBIE SLATER** who revelled in the space he was given, had a hand in the only goal, and might have scored two more.

ST GEORGE: Greedy, Skeen, Green, Ratcliffe, M. O'Shea, Stone, J. O'Shea, Bozanic (Ricoy 73), Petkovski (Marton 82), Slater, Koczka.

CANBERRA: Economopoulos, Ontong, Jones, Byrne, Harkins, Sermanni, Mihailidis (Burke 75), Bryant, Phillips, English, Gibson (Lamond 57).

REFEREE: R. Lorenc.

CROWD: 1,215.



"BIG MAC" Dave McIntosh

LONDOS STARS

WOLLONGONG.....1

SYD OLYMPIC.....2

BY MIKE GANDON

SYDNEY OLYMPIC goalkeeper Billy Londos starred in his team's 2-1 win over Wollongong City at Wollongong Showground with a superb display of saving.

Both coaches, Olympic's Manfred Schaefer and Wollongong's Adrian Alston, were enthusiastic about Londos' display.

He saved a certain goal in the opening minute and stopped a Peter Willis penalty in the 71st minute which would have levelled the scores at 2-2.

"Londos had a great game," Alston said, while Schaefer said Londos gave his defensive unit confidence at the back.

Olympic's two first half goals were gems.

The first came after seven minutes when Arthur Svinos headed in a cross from Peter Katholos.

In the 35th minute Katholos again was involved in Olympic's second goal when he floated a superb ball to Chris Kalantzis, who made no mistake.

Kalantzis was on for Nick Theodorakopoulos who broke his right leg in the 16th minute after a tackle on Domenic Giannone.

Wollongong City stuck to their guns in the

second half and were rewarded when Giannone scored a goal after a free-kick by Bernie Godzik.

Alston said after the match: "I was pleased with our attitude and the way we came back in the second half."

Schaefer said: "The result was never in doubt but there was more pressure on my players to perform well."

Besides Londos, Olympic were well served by Katholos, who was always dangerous, defenders Stuart Johnson and Graham Jennings and midfielder Gary Phillips.

For Wollongong, Scott Dickson played well at the back while Giannone, Godzik and Alex Bundalo tried hard.

Alston summed up the match when he said: "Londos was outstanding in goal and helped his team enormously."

Man of the match: BILL LONDOS for a goalkeeping effort which added confidence to his team and thwarted the opposition.

WOLLONGONG: Vardareff, Green, Condran, Hristovski, Kerr, Godzik, Bundalo (Welsbourn 77), Willis, Kotamandis (Brodnik 45), Giannone, Dickson.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Londos, Johnston, Jennings, Lampropoulos, Phillips, Raskopoulos, Soper, Theodorakopoulos (Kalantzis 16), Katholos, Svinos (Polias 64), Koussas.

REFEREE: T. Davies.

CROWD: 1,375.



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All the NSL action — Southern Division

ARROWSMITH FINED BY HIMSELF!

BRISBANE LIONS coach Gordon Arrowsmith fined himself \$25 after receiving a yellow card during the scoreless draw with Brunswick Juventus at Richlands.

Arrowsmith was cautioned by Brisbane referee Dave Nugent after he fired a loud verbal attack from the bench at Nugent for stopping the game to allow Brunswick defender Bryan Brown to replace his boot.

Although Nugent had stopped his watch, the match was delayed for more than a minute.

Nugent and Arrowsmith resolved the matter amicably after the game, but Nugent

said he was committed to submit a report on the incident to the National League.

Arrowsmith's self-imposed fine is in line with a crackdown on players receiving cards at Lions.

Steve Jackson was fined for being sent off in the Cup game against Newcastle Rosebud last week and Alan Hunter was fined for another caution for dissent in the same match.

"I acted irrespons-

ibly and if the players are to be fined for cards, then so should I," Arrowsmith said.

The yellow card incident aside, it was a pleasing afternoon for Arrowsmith as the odds had been stacked against Lions taking a point.

The team lost Jackson and Russell Stewart through suspension and had Joe Cairney out injured and Alan Niven, who was to play his 200th NSL game, sidelined with

BY GREG RUSSELL

influenza.

Brunswick always struggled in the heat and the side's skilful players failed to get going and only solid defence kept the Melbourne side in the game.

BRISBANE LIONS: Evans, McSkimming, Hunter, Vasquez, T. Redmond, Bassingthwaite, J. Stewart, Ogden, Anderson, Wright, McGregor (Tonner 88).

BRUNSWICK: Banovic, Lewis, Brown, Dowie, Campbell, Incantalupo, Wade, Cullen, Peterson, Sweeney (Miranda 74), Zinnie.

REFEREE: D. Nugent. CROWD: 1,174.

GREEN GULLY TOPPLES TOP TEAM

GREEN GULLY broke Heidelberg's unbeaten record with a convincing 3-1 win at Olympic Village.

The defeat sent Heidelberg tumbling from the top of the table and generated some doubts as to whether Brian Garvey's Warriors will be able to regain the top spot.

One of the highlights of the game was the debut of diminutive forward George Campbell with Green Gully, having transferred from Preston on Saturday night.

In fact, Campbell scored the equaliser and paved the way for Gully's spectacular victory.

Heidelberg went ahead after 24 minutes with Steve Winn but were shaky in defence and unproductive in midfield.

They paid the penalty in the 27th minute when Campbell scored his first goal for his new club.

Socceroo defender Charlie Yankos was the most unfortunate player of this interesting encounter, having scored a goal against his own side in the 37th minute to give Gully an unexpected 2-1 lead.

Heidelberg missed a great opportunity to level the score in the 48th minute when referee Bernie Upjohn awarded a penalty against Green Gully.

Patterson took the penalty kick but his shot rebounded off the post. Stuart Stevenson tapped the rebound in but the referee did not allow the goal to stand.

Green Gully settled the issue in the 72nd minute when Upjohn awarded a second penalty, this time against Heidelberg, after Steve Tasios handled the ball, and Paul Lewis converted the penalty kick.

Man of the match: Heidelberg's explosive defender STEVE MARLEY.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver, McKie, Marley, Angele, Yankos, Valentine, Selemidis, Tasios (Gabrielson 74), Patterson (Metaxas 78), Stevenson, Winn.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Young, Murray, McLelland, Williams, Smart, Vassallo, Lloyd, Campbell, Lucchesi, Lewis (Smallman 79).

REFEREE: B. Upjohn. CROWD: 1,500.

TWO thousand disgruntled Melbourne Croatia supporters booed their side after an uninspiring 0-0 draw against West Adelaide at Olympic Park.

The game can best be described as the "bore" of the championship so far, because it lacked spectacle, quality and of course what the spectators look for most — goals.

Indicative of the low quality of the game was the fact that the first shot at goal was fired 15 minutes before full-time by Steve Atsalas.

Even Croatia's latest recruit, Ante Lujbic, who made his debut on Sunday, failed to impress the loyal Croatia supporters.

Lujbic was replaced by Robert Markovac in the 46th minute.

Markovac reappeared with Croatia after a prolonged dispute, and the game also marked the reappearance of talented midfielder Jim Campbell, who a few weeks ago had announced his decision to retire following his failure to establish himself at Croatia.

MELB CROATIA: Runje, Curcio, Parton (Campbell 78), Lujbic (Markovac 46), Hannah, Antolovic, Deankovic, Biskic, Golevic, Ward, Cumming.

WEST ADELAIDE: Sproul, Atsalas, Brown, Hiern, Honeyman, Konstandopoulos, McGregor, Price, Manou, Scott, Mousoulis.

REFEREE: C. Bambridge. CROWD: 1,500.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS and Preston staged a brilliant display of attacking soccer, ending in a fair 2-2 draw.

Both sides displayed tremendous aggression and unmatchable discipline, two key elements of their recent inspiring performances.

Sunshine George Cross went into the lead after 32 minutes with Ossie Latif and it appeared as though they would upset Preston.

In the 41st minute, however, Preston bounced back to level the score through Steve Smith.

The goal increased the appetite of Preston for more goals and two minutes before half-time Gary Cole headed in a cross by overlapping left-back Con Opasinas to put his side in the front.

Uncompromising George Cross persisted with their attack and managed to grab the equaliser in the 55th minute when Latif struck for the second time, turning in a cross by Noel Mitten.

SUNSHINE: Kastner, Taylor, Campbell, Bennett, Richardson, Bain, Faulkner, McLaren, Mitten, Gilder, Latif.

PRESTON: Traianidis, Opasinas, McMillan, Dobson, Dunn, Flavell, Ilioski, Lane (Heys 62), Smith, Spink, Cole.

REFEREE: J. Fokianos. CROWD: 4,509.

TROUBLE-TORN Footscray remained safely anchored at the bottom of the table following their 3-1

defeat by Brisbane City at Schintler Reserve.

As part of the plan to improve the performances of the side, Footscray also recruited central defender Don McLeod from Heidelberg United for a fee of approximately \$11,000.

Footscray experienced some moments of joy in the 23rd minute when Bill Lazopoulos headed home their solitary goal.

Brisbane City, however, levelled the score in the 29th minute through Bobby Hamilton and embarked on an offensive campaign which netted another two goals.

In the 42nd minute Luchi Fabrizio put City in the lead and later Frank Mengotti hit a 30 metre volley to give his side a convincing 3-1 win.

FOOTSCRAY: Boland, Curovic (Stojilovic 75), Lujbic, Kyriakoulas, McLeod, Tasevski (Belic 63), Lazopoulos, Karic, Carroll, O'Donnell, Tapai.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart, Fabrizio (Junna 80), Bromfield, Hamilton, Milovanovic, Chapman, Glockner (Scruggins 75), Mengotti, Carey, Reis.

REFEREE: E. Venios. CROWD: 757.

A QUESTIONABLE decision by referee Denis Voutsinas gave Brunswick Juventus a 3-2 win over Footscray at Olympic Park on Easter Monday.

Footscray players argued after the game that Juventus forward Andrew Zinni was in an offside position when he crossed the ball that resulted in Mike Petersen scoring the winning goal in the 60th minute.

Juventus looked set to continue their series of recent excellent performances when they opened the scoring after five minutes through Robert Cullen.

Their lead was very short-lived, however, because three minutes later Stojilovic caught John Dowie in possession and levelled the score.

Juventus regained the lead in the 34th minute with a goal by Fabio Incantalupo, but again Footscray bounced back with a penalty in the 49th minute scored by Ernie Tapai after a hand-ball by Brian Brown.

BRUNSWICK: Banovic, Lewis, Brown, Dowie, Campbell, Incantalupo, Petersen, Wade, Cullen, Sweeney, Zinnie.

FOOTSCRAY: Boland, Petrov (Vagias 68), Belic, Kyriakoulas, Karic, Tasevski, O'Donnell, Tapai, Lazopoulos, Stojilovic (Reigosa 75), Lujbic.

REFEREE: D. Voutsinas. CROWD: 2,500.

BAD LUCK HAUNTS ADELAIDE CITY

BY TOM MCKAIN

ADELAIDE CITY must be wondering if somebody up there doesn't like them after being held to a 2-2 draw by South Melbourne at Olympic Sports Field for a no-win record from six games.

Twice the home side was in front against last year's champions in conditions better suited to aquatic sports than soccer, and was eventually bluffed out of two points.

It happened this way: City midfielder Charlie Villani scored in the 23rd minute from a Peter Rankin cross sending the ball in low.

South centre-back Steve Blair equalised in the 28th minute with a low shot from a pass by Charlie Egan, who knocked the ball to the giant defender following a corner.

Villani popped up again in the 33rd minute to side-foot a pass from Adrian Santrac with the players splashing through ankle deep water in some parts of the pitch and fighting sheets of rain for large spells throughout the game.

It was looking all Adelaide City — as it

had done the previous week when they led 2-0 at Preston only to concede four goals in the last 15 minutes.

Egan started the home rot when he needed Neville Flounders in the box and the pair exchanged verbal abuse and "gentle" physical exchanges until Flounders backhanded Egan who dropped inside of linesman Paul Smallman in the 63rd minute.

Referee Tony Martell, who gave what can only be described as a bewildering performance, consulted Smallman, sent off Flounders, booked Egan, and gave City a free-kick — inside the box!

He had upset home fans in the third minute when he denied Peter Rankin a penalty when he appeared to be brought down by Angelo Posteloglou.

He then awarded a penalty for a tame

tackle by the same player on Joe Mullen which City's Steve Maxwell saw saved by South goalkeeper Peter Laumets in the 56th minute.

With City down to 10 men following the ordering off of Flounders, they panicked and fell back in defence which allowed Gary McDowell to grab the equaliser in the 74th minute.

Allowing for the

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Cecere, Donnelly, Flounders, Nyskohus, Maxwell, Villani, Santrac, Northcote, Rankin, Mullen.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, Yzendoorn, Blair, Postecoglou, Murphy, Crino, Brown, Egan, McDowell, Halford.

REFEREE: T. Martell. CROWD: 1,025.



STEVE BLAIR

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CANBERRA ANGRY OVER TRANSFER

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS are upset over the failure of Heidelberg United to complete transfer fee arrangements for George Christopoulos.

Christopoulos was transferred by the National Capital's club to Heidelberg during the off-season for a fee of \$18,000.

Heidelberg paid Canberra a deposit of \$8,000 and the balance was to be finalised by two instalments of \$6,000 and \$4,000, payable to Canberra on April 1 and July 1 respectively.

But when Canberra attempted all last

week to collect the first instalment of the balance owing, Heidelberg refused to co-operate.

Seeking some form of recourse, Canberra City Olympians reported their grievance and Heidelberg's attitude to the NSL.

In the meantime, Heidelberg wrote to the League stating that the first instalment of \$6,000 was in fact due on June 1 and

the second instalment on September 1.

"That's not right," a Canberra official retorted when ASW contacted the club and informed them of Heidelberg's understanding of the terms.

"We are not Real Madrid that we can offer players for sale with six months delayed instalments and almost a year's finance."

"We are trying to administer a soccer club not a finance company," the steaming Canberra official concluded.

Meanwhile, the League's general manager Stefan Kamasz stated: "We will review all the facts this week and make a decision. But

in the meantime, Heidelberg will not be allowed to register or transfer any other

player until the Christopoulos matter is satisfactorily resolved."



□ GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS

CROATIAN THREAT LOOMS IN CANBERRA

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS, after finally suffering their first defeat of the season yesterday at the hands of St George, back up on Sunday to do battle with the new League leaders Sydney Croatia at Bruce Stadium.

Adding to Canberra coach Roy Thomson's worry, Anthony Franken, the club's crack goalkeeper, will be out for another two or three weeks.

Franken suffered a muscle injury at training late last week and his place was filled by back-up keeper, George Economopoulos.

Thomson said last night: "I was far from happy with all but one of my players against St George."

"Only our young goalkeeper, Georgie Economopoulos, did an excellent job for us yesterday."

"At this stage, no player in the Canberra side can complain if he gets dropped for the Sydney Croatia match on Sunday."

A far from happy Thomson added: "We failed to execute commitment. Sitting back is no good and we have to go at people and give the paying customer value for his money."

"Croatia are a really good side and will be a real threat for the points and they will come at us."

Croatia zipped to the top of the League ladder yesterday with an easy 2-0 victory over Inter Monaro.

Croatia's midfield general Zarko Odzakovic, with his excellent distribution, and Jimmy Patikas, with his tremendous explosive acceleration, could prove a handful for Canberra's midfielders, who must check them both tightly if they are going to stay out of trouble.

Croatia's sweeper and coach, Vederan Rozic, can also be lethal with his inswinging free-kicks that will have young Economopoulos on his toes.

Canberra's Terry Byrne could be moved up into midfield from sweeper to join John Mihailidis and Tommy Sermanni, with Peter Burke coming into the side as a second stopper.

A big crowd is expected to turn out to see the League's new leaders against the National Capital side.

— JOHN ECONOMOS



NSL CUP QUARTER-FINAL ACTION

PENALTY DRAMA AS LIONS BOW OUT

NEWCASTLE1
BRIS LIONS.....0

BRISBANE LIONS made a dramatic exit from the NSL Cup by conceding a penalty and having a man sent off during extra-time of an explosive quarter-final encounter with Newcastle Rosebud United.

United skipper Joe Senkalski scored from the spot to give the Cup holders a 1-0 victory and passage into a semi-final meeting with Sydney Olympic.

Other incidents in this match at Adams-

town paled into insignificance in light of the events that produced the goal.

The 10th minute of extra-time saw Newcastle midfielder Bernard Kerby, Lions goalkeeper Wayne Evans and a defender all collide heavily when competing for the ball in the goal-mouth.

Referee Gary Power blew his whistle for a foul on the keeper, but before the players had time to clear the area, Lions defender Steve Jackson moved in and floored Kerby.

The red card was lashed, Jackson exited

and Senkalski gave United victory.

A dour first half saw little creative football and even less goal-mouth action; but the game ignited in the second half.

BY NEIL JAMESON

Newcastle appeared to have a slight edge in fitness and speed and used these assets to upset the poise Lions had displayed in the first half.

Joe Cairney, one of three Brisbane players to be shown the yellow card, was desperately

unlucky not to brake the deadlock in the 64th minute.

However, with Lions captain John Stewart and John Ogden both showing the signs of injuries they carried into the match, Newcastle steadily gained control.

The result could have been decided in normal time had Darren Stewart, David Jones and Kerby not been denied by the Lions woodwork.

Newcastle threw substitute striker Derek Todd into the attack during extra-time and, with Lions desperately

in search of an equaliser, United might have plundered a couple more goals.

Man of the match: DARREN STEWART — the 18-year-old's work-rate, turning ability and will to take the man on kept Brisbane under constant pressure.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Boogaard, Owens, Thompson, McQuarrie, Senkalski, Jones, Stewart, Brandt, Kerby (Todd 105).

BRISBANE LIONS: Evans, Jackson, T. Redmond, Hunter, Niven, R. Stewart, J. Stewart, Ogden, McGregor, Cairney (Vasquez 88), Anderson (Bassingthwaite 102).

REFEREE: G. Power.
CROWD: 1,500.

CANBERRA CITY OLYMPIANS v SYDNEY CROATIA



BRUCE STADIUM

THIS SUNDAY APRIL 21

MAIN GAME 3 PM

YOUTH LEAGUE 1 PM



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Canberra City's next home match:

Sunday May 5 v Apia Leichhardt

AT BRUCE STADIUM

WHAT A WAY TO START!

THE New South Wales TNT Skypak League got off to a fine start with headlines going to the Bankstown National v Parramatta Melita fixture.

The game wasn't played because, when players and officials arrived at Bankstown's home ground, Jensen Park, there were no goal-posts erected.

Parramatta Melita officials were very annoyed by the circumstances, and initially threatened to claim the two points. However, the match will be played at a later date.

The point of this editorial concerns the negligent attitude that allowed this situation to occur and once again attract bad publicity for soccer.

Bankstown National should be heavily fined for their inattention and carelessness — and for the fact that they have dented the credibility of the NSW Soccer Federation and their fellow State League clubs.

The various State Leagues throughout Australia form the second rung on the club soccer ladder in this country.

A professional approach is required from club officials.

Admittedly, for many officials it is a thankless task involving more time than they often have to spare, but if they can't do the job they shouldn't have taken it on in the first place.

Of course, Bankstown National are not Robinson Crusoe. Many other State League clubs — indeed some National League clubs — display an ineptitude which should be unacceptable to the respective competition administrators.

However, at times one is forced to question the foresight of those administrators.

Already this year we have had the clash of NSW Ampol Cup fixtures with Australia's matches in the World Youth Championship in Sydney.

On that occasion, NSW Federation officials argued that they weren't aware of the WYC dates until after they had arranged the Ampol Cup dates.

In a case like the present Bankstown National affair, surely such a laughable situation should not have been allowed to occur in the first place.

It could have been prevented if the Federation made a pre-season inspection of club grounds to ensure that everything is in order — like goalposts!



CHIT CHAT



LEE STERREY: timely arrival.

FORMER Sydney Croatia defender **LEE STERREY** arrived at Marconi at just the right time to reinforce the defence in the absence of injured **JOE RIZZOTTO**.

Marconi paid a \$4,000 transfer fee and coach **LES SCHEINFLUG**'s view is that he will be worth every cent of it.



JIM PETINELLIS, president of Sydney Olympic, appealed in the club programme for the media to stop knocking.

Petinellis wrote: "It is in the strongest possible terms that I condemn recent articles in some sections of the media that have exaggerated Sydney Olympic's debts."

"We do have a deficit — everybody knows that. But we categorically deny the massive amount that recent reports allege it to be."

"If Sydney Olympic are in debt, we are certainly not alone."



BRISBANE LIONS striker **CALVIN DAUNT**, who broke a bone in his foot in pre-season training, is back playing and scored two goals in his first game back.

Daunt turned out for the Lions Premier League reserves then came on as substitute for the Premier League side.

But the big man, who was the centre of the Lions attack last year, is still well short of fitness and unlikely to push for NSL inclusion for several weeks.

WHILE there is no connection between **MARTYN CROOK** and **ALISTAIR CROOK** apart from the fact they are both West Adelaide goalkeepers, they do have more than their names and positions in common.

Martyn, the former Soccerroo custodian, always fancied himself as a striker, and at training, runs up front every chance he gets in knockabout matches.

The other week, when in goal for West's reserves in the SA State League First Division, he got a shock.

With the team losing, coach **PETER KOULIZOS** sent on Alistair — as a striker!

The big youngster did his bit, but no doubt Martyn would have traded places given half a chance.



PENRITH CITY may not be the richest club in the NSL, but at least their players don't go hungry.

Sweeper **JEFF AINSWORTH** makes sure of that by supplying loaves of bread to his team-mates.

"I've got a hot bread shop in Wollongong and I bring a few extra loaves up on Sundays," Ainsworth explained.

It's a long way from his home in Wollongong to the Panthers' Cook Park ground at St Marys, so Ainsworth trains once a week with his former club, Wollongong City.

However, he won't be very popular after scoring one goal and setting up another in Penrith's 3-0 win over the Wolves last week.

FIFA coach **HEINZ MAROTZKE** made a flying visit to Sydney on Easter Monday and Tuesday to conduct coaching seminars.

The German coach was a popular visitor and his joke about his eventual meeting with St Peter was a timely one.

Marotzke said that upon his arrival at the pearly gates, St Peter will immediately rush to the red phone — the hotline to hell.

"Hello Devil," says St Peter. "I want to arrange a football match."

"Not again," comes the reply. "We beat you every time."

"Ah, but things are different now," St Peter retorts. "We've got Heinz Marotzke — the world's greatest coach."

"Haven't you forgotten something?" the Devil answers.

"All the referees are down here!"



GOOD news for Sydney Olympic fans... Soccerroo hopeful **TONY DAKOS** is recovering from a cartilage operation which has kept him out of the team from the start of the NSL competition.

Dakos suffered the injury in a pre-season match and is confident he will make a successful comeback to first team football in a couple of weeks.

The former Youth Soccerroo played an important part in Olympic's successful season last year.



IT was good to see an old and respected face in the Sydney Olympic dressing room after the Easter Monday match against Apia Leichhardt.

The visitor was **NICK SOKOLOFF**, goalkeeper hero of the successful St George side of the late 1960s.

Nick's old Saints team-mate **MANFRED SCHAEFER**, now coaching Olympic, asked him to help out with goalkeeper coaching.

"JIM FRASER was hurt in a motor cycle accident, so I'm filling in until he can get back," explained Nick.

The Olympic goalkeepers couldn't have a better tutor.

ALAN DAVIDSON can't take a trick in his career with English First Division club Nottingham Forest.

"Davo" is now laid up with a stress fracture of the vertebrae and the club doctor has warned him not to play for 10 weeks.

Forest manager **BRIAN CLOUGH** advised Davidson to return to Australia for complete rest and to be back in Nottingham for pre-season training.

The former South Melbourne Soccerroo should arrive in Melbourne in three weeks.



JOURNALISTS in the Spencer Park press-box were surprised when they looked at a piece of paper which had been blowing around the room after being dropped by a Brisbane City official.

The document listed in considerable detail the payment arrangements of City's entire playing squad.



KEVIN KEEGAN made a great start to his New Zealand-Australia tour last week.

Playing for an invitation side against New Zealand's World Cup squad, Keegan scored two dazzling goals and rocked the crossbar with a super header.

The World Cup team won 5-3.

By the way, Keegan's Australian media conference will be staged at the Camperdown Travelodge on the day of his arrival, Friday April 26.

All press, TV and radio people are invited. Exact starting time will be published later.



WITH the expected return of NSL Player of the Year **SERGIO MELTA**, Adelaide City coach **EDMUND KREFT** will have a problem.

A midfielder, Melta has been missed, but Kreft's worry has been to find a striker with that magic final touch.

Midfielders **CHARLIE VILLANI**, **BRIAN NORTHCOTE** and **STEVE MAXWELL** have been doing an excellent job since Melta was injured five weeks ago.

It could be that Kreft will convert one of the trio.

The choice is expected to be between Villani and Maxwell, both of whom have played in attack, Maxwell as a central striker in State League and Villani as an NSL winger.

THERE is plenty of talk about **ZARKO ODZAKOV** representing Australia in the World Cup elimination matches, but don't put your money on it.

At least one voice at the ASF, that of **SIR ARTHUR GEORGE**, might speak against giving an import preference over local players.

In any case, we understand Odzakov is still not an Australian citizen so he could not represent his adopted country... yet.

If this talented midfielder player does win Soccerroo selection, get ready for the complaints from Victoria.

Victorians have whinged for years that players have to move to Sydney from interstate to gain national team recognition.

If Odzakov is Soccerroo material now he's with Sydney Croatia, was he not also worth a run, even if only in friendly fixtures, when he played in Melbourne for Preston?



FRESHWATER must be the champion "yo-yo" club of New South Wales.

They've been thrown out of the Manly Warringah Association three times in the past six months.

Freshwater were first banned after a stabbing at one of their games last September.

Later, the suspension was cancelled and the team was readmitted.

Two months later, Freshwater were out again but, on appeal, they were brought back.

In a matter of weeks, the club was once more refused affiliation.

Now another appeal is on the way from Freshwater. At least we think it is because the whole comic affair has confused even ASW.

ONE would never believe it but **GARY MEIER** (Sydney Olympic) and **BOBBY PARKS** (Apia Leichhardt) are playing reserve team soccer.

Both goalkeepers proved to be possibly the most consistent pair playing in the Northern Division of the NSL last year.

Meier in particular has been a stalwart between the sticks in the NSL for a number of seasons.



APIA LEICHHARDT may not be leading the NSL but they are close to the best-dressed team in the competition.

Each first grade player looks impeccable in their new shirts, blazers, ties and dressy pants.

Maybe other teams in the League should follow the trend.



NEW ZEALAND players who come to Australia and have never been members of a Kiwi national squad are not classed as temporary visa players.

So any really talented young New Zealander still has the opportunity to make it in Australia if he can.



THE Queensland Soccer Federation got several sections of the media offside with the way it released the state squad last week.

Requests had been made for an organised release but instead it was given to a waiting journalist at Perry Park late one night.

And while that was a pleasant scoop for the writer, the squad gained only minimal exposure elsewhere.



STEVE MAXWELL: excellent job in midfield.

ANOTHER COACH GETS THE BOOT

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

CEDO CIRKOVIC became the third coaching casualty of the Southern Division of the National League when he was sacked as Footscray coach last week.

Cirkovic and team manager Simon Turudia were dismissed on Tuesday night following Footscray's failure to achieve results in the opening five rounds of the championship.

Tommy Traynor was the first coach to depart the scene when he was axed as Brunswick

Juventus coach before the start of the competition, while Tony Lowndes was recently replaced by Jim Hermiston at Brisbane City.

Footscray were languishing at the bottom of the table after failing to pick up a point from five games and club

president Tony Amon has deemed the blame on Cirkovic and Turudia.

Amon said: "Both Cirkovic and Turudia had been given a free hand to recruit players for the needs of the club.

"Six months have gone by and neither of them has secured the services of a reputable player from Australia or abroad."

Amon argued that Cirkovic lost the support and trust of his players because of alleged preferential treatment he has given to Yugoslav members of his team.

Cirkovic scoffed at the suggestion of his former president for discriminatory treatment of players.

"Amon's statement is completely untrue," asserted Cirkovic.

"He and the players know very well that the

THIS TIME IT'S CEDO

only criteria for selection was ability and performance and not the nationality, colour or creed of the players available.

"I am disappointed that Mr Amon chose not to give details of our earlier agreement to proceed with the promotion to the NSL team of young, promising players irrespective of results. Now, in a complete turnabout, he is looking for scapegoats."

PRESSURE

Cirkovic claims his committee did very little, if anything, to reduce the mounting pressure on him because of the failure of the team to achieve results.

"We lost Jim Tansey and Jamie Paton at the

beginning of the season and in the opening rounds of the championship we missed the services of two key players, Brian O'Donnell and Joe Carroll, who refused to play unless overdue payments were forwarded to them.

"Denis Boland had also decided to hang up his boots and Kyriakoulas was not available for selection until recently. Our problems were compounded by the lack of funds to buy established players to fill our vacancies.

"The committee was fully aware of the problems. And I regret saying that instead of working toward a solution of the problems, they went public informing people about my demise before I even knew about it."

OLYMPIC WORRIES THOMSON

EDDIE THOMSON, Sydney City's crack-coach, admitted last night to ASW: "Frankly I'm a little worried about next Sunday's match against Sydney Olympic."

Sydney City will face Sydney Olympic at the Sydney Athletic Field in a switched round at the request of Olympic's president Jim Petinellis.

"We have not played well for the last three weeks and they have started to win matches. Marshall Soper and Gary Phillips are already in top form motivating their side."

Thomson continued: "The Soper versus Steve O'Connor battles are always exciting to watch and Frank Farina facing Graham Jennings will be another great duel to witness."

The Olympic president, Mr Jim Petinellis, however, was also cautious when he explained: "We lost our sweeper Nick Theodorakopoulos yesterday with a broken leg against Wollongong. Our other sweeper, Tony Dakos won't be back for another two weeks."

Petinellis continued: "We are struggling a bit you might say, but we will give Thomson's boys a good shake, I promise you that."

ST GEORGE will be out to consolidate with a further win against Blacktown City following their away victory yesterday against Canberra City Olympians.

Johnny O'Shea, Saints' reliable utility man, got the vital goal and the League points for his side in Canberra after flank striker Robbie Slater was denied scoring by an excellent save.

Vic Bozanic is again expected to slot into the right side of the St George midfield.

Bozanic is one of the NSL's hardest drivers of the ball, adding fire-power that has been sadly lacking.

Blacktown City have been collecting points with monotonous regularity and yesterday, even defender, former Australian Youth team member Robbie Wheatley, got amongst the goals.



CEDO CIRKOVIC: "scapegoat".

ST GEORGE v BLACKTOWN CITY

SUNDAY APRIL 21

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ST GEORGE'S EXCITING YOUNG RIGHT-BACK, DAVID SKEEN



ST GEORGE CAPTAIN
PETER STONE



BLACKTOWN CAPTAIN
CLIFF POINTER



BLACKTOWN CITY'S CREATIVE ATTACKER, JOHN BRADLEY

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YOUTH STARS PROGRESS TO TOP CLASS OF SOCCER

THERE's an exclusive club in international soccer that only opens its doors to new membership once every two years.

In August in far-off Russia, this club will once again welcome a batch of "new chums" ready to fill in their membership cards.

Some of the elite members of this club are today's present internationals Diego Maradona, Vladimir Bessonov, Bernard Ghenini, Ramon Diaz and Gabriel Calderon.

They are football superstars bred and reared in completely

different environments from different parts of the world.

But what they have in common is that they are players in soccer history who have chased world titles and played in world final series at both youth and senior level.

The World Youth Championship Finals in Russia in August will produce more star play-

ers who will go on to become household names wherever a round ball is kicked.

ACHIEVEMENT

At the present time, club membership is over 30 players who have played in a World Youth Championship and a World Cup final series.

And, this is a marvelous achievement



BERNARD GENHINI (left) in action for France during the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain. Ghenini graduated as a fully-fledged senior international after playing for France in the 1977 World Youth Championship.

when you consider that the Youth titles were not started until 1977.

The first two series were held in Tunisia in 1977 and Japan in 1979,

and out of those finals the two great superstars, Bessonov of Russia and Maradona of Argentina, emerged.

Bessonov and Maradona were judged the best two players in the respective series.

But these two weren't the only two from their countries to graduate to senior World Cup Final status with Anatoli Damianenko, Sergio Baltacha, Andre Bal and Vikton Chanov in the Russian squad in the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain.

In the Argentine squad in Spain with Maradona were Ramon Diaz, Gabriel Calderon and Juan Barbas.

From the French Youth team that played in Tunis, Bernard Ghenini emerged as their superstar.

SEMI-FINALS

Spain can boast Santiago Uguiraga and Ricardo Gallego and in the Italian squad that won the World Cup in Spain in 1982 were former WYC players Franco Baresi and Giovanni Galli.

Poland have reached the semi-finals of the WYC and the World Cup proper with dual representatives Jacek Kasimierski, Andrzej Buncol and Andrzej Palasz in their squad.

From the 1983 WYC Finals in Mexico, the lads "most likely to succeed" if their teams make next year's World Cup Finals in Mexico are Scotland's Paul McStay and Neale Cooper, Russia's Oleg Protasov, Austria's Alois Weinrich and Brazil's Geovani.

As far as the Socceros are concerned, well we have not reached a senior World Cup Final series since 1974 but we

have certainly had our share of success with Youth internationals moving into the senior Socceroo squad.

Fine players such as Graham Jennings, Alan Davidson, Peter Raskopoulos, Tommy McCulloch, Eddie Krncevic, David Mitchell, Peter Tredinnick, Oscar Crino, Frank Farina, Tony Franken, Greg Woodhouse, Steve Blair, Jim Patikas and Theo Selemidis to name a few.

Indeed, when you look at this star-studded list there can be no argument about the wonderful production line the WYC has turned out to be.

And from the present squad to go to Russia, players such as Chris Kalantzis, Alex Bundalo and Andrew Bernal look to have senior international futures ahead of them.

As does big Andrew Koczka — if he gets selected for Russia as he so rightly deserves.

And, it is in this part of the proceedings where I have to heartily disagree with ASW colleague Alan Vest, the NSW director of coaching.

Last week Vest stated in his column that the NSL clubs are rushing our talented youngsters into the big-time too early and that it is a misplaced view that by playing in the NSL a young player becomes experienced.

Well, maybe that's what it states in the coaching manuals that these directors of coaching seem to use as their bibles and then spout to all and sundry who are prepared to listen to them.

But it's entirely diffe-

rent, proposition in the professional dressing-room — the place where it really matters.

It has been proven beyond all doubt throughout the world of professional football that top youth players thrive and develop on top professional soccer at club level.

It has also been proven that a youngster with experience at professional level — in Australia the NSL — performs much better in big WYC Finals than players with only youth league experience.

CALIBRE

Our most successful national Youth coach in the history of Australian soccer, Les Scheinflug, and his assistant Raul Blanco proved this fact beyond any shadow of a doubt.

I suggest that Vest or for that matter Jim Shoulder have a word with Messrs Scheinflug and Blanco on this score — especially before our Youth squad is selected for Russia!

What must be realised by everyone in this country is that when our youngsters go to Russia in August, they will not be playing against teams of the calibre they met in the Oceania qualifying round.

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'RETIRED' STAR RE-ESTABLISHES HIMSELF IN NSL

THE question which has astounded soccer followers during the early rounds of the National League is the form of Chris Thamnidis with Inter Monaro.

On closer analysis it becomes increasingly obvious Thamnidis has made a successful comeback to NSL soccer after "retiring" from the competition in 1979.

He's a better player than when he made his mark with Pan Hellenic.

The skilful 29-year-old has been the most penetrative and dangerous player in Monaro's short yet disappointing initiation in the NSL.

Thamnidis has been the team's attacking saviour — particularly when fellow forwards Tony Brennan, Walter Valeri and Baz Giampaolo went on strike recently.

RESPECTABLE

Thamnidis says Monaro will bounce back and finish in a respectable position on the ladder.

"It was a bit of a letdown during the first few games. There were personality clashes with former coach Josef Procop," he said.

"It's disappointing when these things happen, but problems like this occur at all levels of soccer.

"But we have a good side when everyone is fit and available."

It was Monaro president Laurie Pastrello who was out to sign Thamnidis during the latter stages of the State League competition last year.

"I was playing for Yugal and Laurie asked me if I would be interested in playing for Monaro in the NSL," he said.

"I jumped at the chance. I thought it was a good opportunity to re-establish myself in Australian soccer.

"Laurie has been a tremendous help and I think Monaro is lucky to have someone of his calibre working so hard for the club."

Profile

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

Thamnidis shares a house with his former Canterbury-Marrickville team-mate Angelo Titilas, and, along with former Marconi defender and 1984 Rothmans Medal winner Ricky Budini, he is employed by Pastrello.

Thamnidis arrived in Australia in 1968 and, at the tender age of 12, played junior soccer for Pan Hellenic (now Sydney Olympic).

The following season he was rushed straight in to third grade and has never looked back.

"I had a good run with Pan Hellenic. I stayed with the club until 1979," he said.

"They were great years in Australian soccer. There wasn't as much money demanded by players then. Most played for the love of the game."

What about the difference in standards?

"I think it was better in the old days. You played with more brains and less physical means," he said.

"Now they play the game at 100 miles an hour, instead of putting the ball down and treating the spectators to entertaining soccer."

Thamnidis was quick to point out there are a number of players currently playing in the NSL who possess the same skill as the stars of the State League days when he was a player in that competition.

"I must admit it's fairly difficult to make comparisons but I think players like Tom McCulloch (Apia Leichhardt), Oscar Crino (South Melbourne), Peter Katholos and Peter Raskopoulos (Sydney Olympic), Jim Patikas (Sydney Croatia)



TONY BRENNAN

and team-mate Baz Giampaolo would hold their own against some of the great players in the early 1970s," he said.

"It might sound a bit way-off but I think they could compete against John Warren (St George), Raul Carrizo, Roco Ille, Rudi Gnavi (Pan Hellenic) and of course, Atti Abonyi (St George)."

After leaving Sydney Olympic in 1979, Thamnidis linked up with another Greek-supported club, Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic.

Thamnidis has fond memories of his stay there.

"I spent four fairly good seasons there. I know I probably should have been a little bit more dedicated," he said.

"Canterbury are a good club. They have many outstanding junior players coming through the ranks.

"It's a pity they aren't playing in the NSL."

Last season Thamnidis enjoyed possibly



CHRIS THAMNIDIS (striped shirt) pictured in his days with Pan Hellenic.

his best year in the NSW State League, regularly earning "man of the match" praises.

Thamnidis still has

a few good years left in him. His deep probing runs and pin-point crosses will continue to haunt opposing defences.

Thamnidis also has a deadly eye for goals.

ASW colleague David Jack vividly recalls an Ampol Cup

match during the '70s. "That night Chris scored a hat-trick at Garside Park against Hakoah and the Greek fans went berserk."

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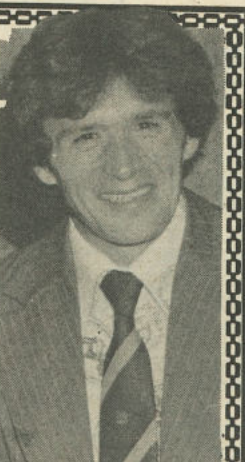
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CROATIA LOOK TEAM TO BEAT

COULD Sydney Croatia be the team of the year?

That is the question being asked by many soccer followers, and if recent form is anything to go by then it's quite a possibility.

Talking about Croatia lends strength to my article on experienced players, with captain-coach Vedran Rozic turning in some polished performances.

His touch and class on the ball are superb, his positional play is outstanding and, although maybe not a player with great pace, he rarely gets himself into situations where he is under much pressure.

His steadying influence at the back would probably be the key factor in their success as, in recent matches, it looked as though certain aspects of their back-

four could cause them problems.

However, the blend of youth and experience is paying dividends for Croatia as their wins against Sydney City and St George proved.

Their two new signings, Jim Patikas and Zarko Odzakov, are two fine players with contrasting styles.

Yet they really complement each other — Patikas with his flair for going forward, and Odzakov, equally good at going forward but with the strength defensively as well.

Wally Savor is also showing good form and looked equally effective on the left against St George.

He in fact gave the side better balance, with Odzakov far more effective in the middle of the park.

Up-front, Graham Arnold is looking a fine player and, as there is a possibility of Eddie Krncevic joining him, he could do even better.

Partnering Rozic at the back is Bruno Vidaic, who has probably benefitted from Rozic's presence.

Vidaic is probably having his best spell for some time.

Overall, then, Croatia are looking the side to beat and ready to really give the League a shake-up.

They are firing at the moment and it will be interesting to see

whether they can maintain their good form.

Signs are that this is a strong possibility, with their experienced players and also their fine support, which could reach 10,000-plus.



BRUNO VIDAIC: benefitted from Rozic's presence.

Marotzke visit was a success

THE successful two-day seminar by FIFA coach Heinz Marotzke was held on Easter Monday and Tuesday.

I thought it a good idea for an interstate coach to give a brief amount of the two days, so the following article is by South Australian director of coaching, MIKE WELLS:

THE visit of key FIFA instructor Heinz Marotzke to Parklea proved a resounding success — for all of those who took the trouble to attend.

For me it was certainly a great experience to learn once again from Heinz about some of the most up-to-date ideas and methods being applied overseas.

It was an experience equally shared by fellow state directors Alan Vest (NSW), Tim White (Victoria), Les Bee (ACT) and Ken Kaiser (NNSW), some of whom had travelled many miles to attend.

Marotzke is one of the foremost experts and personalities in the game today. His work with FIFA takes him to over 70 countries a year.

Such visits bring him into direct contact with all leading coaches. He heads up the technical study teams which analyse each World Cup, World Youth Championship and the Olympic Games, upon which his modern coaching methods are based.

Having studied under him on several occasions and also worked with him during the 1981 WYC, there were many new points of interest to be picked up.

But where were our leading coaches from the NSL?

Only national coach Frank Arok, Casey de Bruin (Blacktown City) and Les Scheinflug (Marconi) fronted up.

The rest were notable by their absence. It is not often that we have such an expert freely available to us in this country.

Certainly those who failed to show missed much. But what is far worse is that their clubs and the players of those clubs are really the losers — plus of course the game as a whole.

TRIBUTE

On the other hand, perhaps the absentee coaches genuinely believe they have nothing more to learn about the game?

In conclusion, tribute should go to the NSW Soccer Federation, Eric Arneil, Mr and Mrs Charlie Valentine plus the willing band of helpers at the Parklea complex for helping to make the whole visit a success, and finally to NSW state director of coaching Alan Vest for ensuring that everything went off well.

Marotzke will head up the FIFA international academy for the Oceania Region which is scheduled to be held in Sydney from May 27 to June 5.

Joining Heinz will be Northern Ireland manager Billy Bingham.



JIMMY PATIKAS: flair going forward.



1985 NSL CUP SEMI-FINALS

THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT

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JOE SENKALSKI
(Newcastle Rosebud captain)

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WINNERS
v
THE 1984
WINNERS

SUNSHINE GEORGE
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at Olympic Park,
Melbourne, 7.30pm

WEST CALL DEAL OFF

WEST ADELAIDE have abandoned plans to sign veteran English superstar Frank Worthington for the season.

They are now attempting to negotiate a new contract with the striker who was expected here five weeks ago.

With Brighton City, in the English Second Division, still a chance of promotion, he will not be released until the club's destiny is known.

"We can't wait until the end of the English season," said West president Frank Karagiannis.

"The money we were going to pay Worthington was top dollar, but when we made the offer we expected him here for the season.

"Now we would have him for perhaps only seven home games."

— TOM MCKAIN

THE further north you go, the more the sun is thought to play tricks with people's perceptions.

This is a popular conception — or misconception — down south.

Queensland Soccer Federation president Ian Brusasco might not agree with the sun theory, although of course he may concede that it does apply to his political opponents.

In Brisbane they tried pre-season a ruling that offside can apply from 25 metres out from the goals.

Reaction to the change was mixed. Not so, however, with FIFA senior vice-president Harry Cavan's reaction to my questioning at the FIFA press conference in Sydney last month.

PROBLEM

Wearing his hat as a member of the International Board and chairman of the Re-

BY KEITH GILMOUR

ferees' Committee Mr Cavan said that nothing was wrong with the rules.

The problem of insufficient goals in the game was laid exclusively at the feet of coaches who defend desperately in order to avoid getting the sack.

Certainly my old friend Bill McAfee would treat the reply as factual, yet still a piece of humbug.

Bill has played and serviced soccer around the traps in Sydney since before World War II. Nothing would suit him better to work on a committee to serve up some improvements.

The more one looks at

drastic changes to the Laws, the more one comes up against barriers.

Yet, before the days of massed defences and putting up walls, the incidence of 5-3, 4-2 and 4-1 scores was greater. And so, quite often, was the enjoyment even if the skills and the physical fitness elements were less than at present.

Harry Cavan is obviously a busy man. One gets the impression however that the FIFA generals are so engrossed with the huge soccer operation worldwide that they do not see other events.

EVALUATE

Maybe FIFA should have a committee to study what goes on in the playing side of other sports and codes so that the whole scene can be evaluated.

In any case, the most effective improvement I have heard concerns those blots on the game — professional fouls.

A player is cruelly brought down outside the penalty box. The

wall is slowly put in place and pushed back 10 metres.

Finally the kick is taken and rarely does a goal result.

The suggestion is to replace the massed wall with two or three defenders at the most, this allowing more equity into the chances of a score emerging.

Maybe coaches would try counter-measures but on the face of it this would be an improvement.

Another move could be to give a secondary point to hits on the goal-posts.

GENUINE

Goals scored would count first for say four points and a hit as one.

The poor old referee would have to adjudicate on what are genuine hits.

In all seriousness FIFA should be addressing itself to the major principle of getting more scoring into what is a magnificent worldwide game.

They should realise that it could be even better still.

Offside zones, walls and hits on goal

COACHES COP A SERVE FROM LIONS COACH

"COACHES are killing the natural ability of players."

That's the opinion of Brisbane Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith, who guided the Queensland club into the top five play-offs in the Southern Division of the NSL last season.

Arrowsmith played as a goalkeeper in the Brisbane first division at a time when famous Australian international Bunny Nunn headed the list of top Queensland players.

He says players in that era achieved a high standard of play with little coaching.

"I believe a coach must give players as much of a free hand as possible. There are too many restrictions placed on players."

In Arrowsmith's opinion, the increasingly popular system of playing five men in defence is one of the biggest restrictions on players with ability.

"All you have to do is make one mistake and then you're forced to change your tactics anyway to try and get a goal back," Arrowsmith explained.

The Lions boss believes the negative, defensive side of soccer has been heightened by the pressure placed on coaches by club committees and supporters.

"Coaches are too frightened of losing their jobs," he concluded.

— BRAD EARL

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GARY BROMFIELD

BROMFIELD HASN'T GIVEN UP HOPE

ALTHOUGH Brisbane City full-back Gary Bromfield was a surprise exclusion from the Queensland squad preparing for the interstate clash against New South Wales, he has not given up all hope of wearing the maroon this season.

The 27-year-old former Across The Waves State League player has set his sights on winning a berth in the Queensland side to tour Fiji next month.

Bromfield, a former striker converted to full-back, has been one of City's best players this season but is understanding about his exclusion from the 16-man state squad.

"I thought I had been playing fairly well but obviously not well enough. But it's pretty hard to dislodge a player like Alan Niven," Bromfield said.

Niven is expected to be named as left-back in the Queensland side to meet NSW on Anzac Day.

Queensland coach Bruce Stowell said he did not select Bromfield because he felt the full-back was not playing to the best of his ability and his overlapping style was not entirely suited to the tactics he had formulated for the interstate match.

But Bromfield is de-

termined to win Stowell's approval.

"I will be putting my head down over the coming weeks and trying to play a bit better. Hopefully because I can play at the back or up front, I will come under consideration for the tour," Bromfield said.

Up North

GREG RUSSELL REPORTS FROM BRISBANE

Brisbane Lions' Joe Cairney, the other surprise exclusion from the Queensland squad, had little comment. He believed his regular goalscoring of recent weeks and last year should have earned him a place.

"I will just keep doing it for Lions," he said.

PREMIER LEAGUE MEN IMPRESS HERMISTON

NEW Brisbane City coach Jim Hermiston is hoping his involvement as a player in the Queensland team will help attract talent to Spencer Park.

Bruce Stowell's Queensland squad contains a record number of players from outside the NSL clubs, four in all, and Hermiston hopes these players like the taste of top-level soccer and aspire to play National League.

No doubt the players he has in mind are Coalstars Dave Wheeler, Thistle's Glen Archer and Olympic's Mick Cernaka.

But their clubs need not panic. The ever-honest Hermiston has pledged: "I will not poach. It must be the player's choice to come to Spencer Park."

But even if City miss out on the Premier League state squad members, Hermiston believes Queensland's local competition is bristling with talent.

And having played in the competition last year with North Star, he knows what he is talking about.

"I am always on the lookout for players and I know of a couple of good prospects in the Premier League. The door is always open for any youngster who wants, and I stress wants, to play here."

Brisbane City certainly needs to strengthen its squad if it is to move away from the bottom of the table.

Some relief was expected this week with the arrival of Brazilian striker Roberto Lettieri.

Former captain Frank Pimblett is getting back into top fitness after dislocating his shoulder in his comeback game after settling differences with the club.

"We will be working on fitness and just taking things slowly over the next few weeks," Hermiston said.

"And I will be getting all the kids in on Wednesday nights to give them an extra training run. I think that will help them adapt to NSL."

BASSINGTHWAIGHTE COPS REPRIMAND FROM STATE BOSS

QUEENSLAND's lone Young Soccerroo representative, Richard Bassingthwaighte, has been reprimanded by Stowell after a misunderstanding which cost the Brisbane Lions midfielder a chance to play National League last week.

Bassingthwaighte went on holidays for the Easter break, believing he only had to report on Monday for the Lions Premier League.

But regular NSL midfielder John Ogden was injured at a special Good Friday training session and Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith was keen to draft Bassingthwaighte into the side.

But as the youngster could not be contacted, the place instead went to former Townsville State League player Mick Tonner.

"Richard missed his chance," Stowell said.

"I have told him he must be looking for every opportunity to get into the Lions NSL team

because competition for midfield places is so intense. He should have attended the training session."

"But I am pleased to say he now understands the situation and I think we are going to see a much more determined player in future."

Bassingthwaighte has been in fine touch for the Lions Premier League team and scored in a 3-0 opening round win.

He has been selected in the 16-man Queensland squad for the NSW match on Anzac Day, and Stowell is keen to see him play NSL before then.

But with John and Russell Stewart in bril-

liant form, and Ogden being very reliable and experienced, Bassingthwaighte can presently get no closer than the bench.

That was the position the talented midfielder occupied most during the World Youth Championship Oceania qualifying series, which sparked the problem in Arrowsmith including him in the Lions NSL squad from the outset.

Bassingthwaighte returned to Brisbane very short of match practice and needed several games.

"I couldn't risk him in the NSL team, and to sit him on the bench just to be part of the squad was the last thing he



RICHARD BASSINGTHWAIGHTE

needed. So it was decided to play Richard in the second team to let him get back into touch," Arrowsmith said.

"And until last week the opportunity has not arisen for him to be drafted into the NSL side."

LIONS AND THISTLE OPEN WITH WINS

BRISBANE LIONS made a successful return to the Queensland Premier League by making a clean sweep of the points in their opening round clash with Easts.

But the biggest first round surprise was the 2-0 win by Grange Thistle over last season's grand final winners Ipswich United.

The result stamped Thistle as championship favourites.

But Lions could make a charge of their own after a fine 3-0 win against the Tigers.

Lions won promotion back from the intermediate league at their first attempt following their controversial relegation out of the Premier League in the QSF restructuring at the end of 1983. Lions had been premier League grand finalists that year.

But Easts had no answer for Lions. Goals came from Paul Burns, Richard Bassingthwaighte and Phil Redmond.

Lions also won the premier reserves and colts matches to give the club an early lead in the club championships table.

Thistle, who had failed to capture many headlines in the pre-season, took Ipswich by storm and were always in control in their clash.

But the Lanham Parkers were assisted by a penalty save by Gordon Otto off Ian Lawrie and an own goal by Ipswich defender Kevin Coleman.

Taringa also caused a sensation in grabbing a draw with last year's premiers Mount Gravatt at Dittmer Park.

Most had predicted an easy Hawks win, but Mount Gravatt, obviously missing the midfield creativity of Marty Kirsopp, could not combine to break the Rovers defence.

Kirsopp is expected back from England within weeks and should help renew the Hawks' title challenge.

Other results in the opening round saw Acacia Ridge come from a goal behind to beat the fancied Olympic, while Coalstars Dave Wheeler celebrated his selection in the Queensland squad by scoring a penalty in a 4-0 win over North Star, who were rocked by the loss of Jim Hermiston to Brisbane City.

RAIN HAUNTS XXXX SERIES

AFTER battling power strikes and wet weather postponements, the Queensland Soccer Federation's XXXX pre-season tournament finally succumbed last week.

Only 30 minutes before the scheduled start of the finals night, a Queensland summer downpour turned Perry Park into a lake.

The matches had to be cancelled and QSF officials admitted, there were no available dates remaining until mid-season.

With Queensland

coach Bruce Stowell needing every available date between now and Anzac Day, it seems the earliest the finals night can be played will be the first week in May.

"We just couldn't take a trick this year. But looking on the bright side, we will have the only pre-season competition being played in the middle of the year,"

QSF secretary Alan Vessey said.

NSL clubs Brisbane City and Lions were to meet in the XXXX final, worth \$3,000 to the winner.

Premier league sides Ipswich United, last year's grand finalists, and 1984 Ampol Cup winners North Star were to play-off for third place.

FERNANDEZ HAD EXPERIENCE MONARO NEEDED

AS new chums Inter Monaro struggle to find their feet — and their first championship points — in the National Soccer League of Australia, spare a thought for the coach who took them to NSL promotion, Victor Fernandez.

Fernandez, one of the most skilful players to play in Australia, took over Inter Monaro in mid-1984 and guided them through some pretty rough times before they achieved their ultimate goal

— promotion to the major league in Australia.

As Inter Monaro are now painfully finding out, it is a vastly different proposition winning the NSW State League than to survive and compete with the "men" in the National League.

All that may have

been different had Inter Monaro listened to the words of Fernandez, who has played and coached both at youth and senior level for many years in the National League.

'COURTESY'

"After we won promotion I told Monaro last October what they

would have to do to compete in the big league.

"They listened and said they'd be in touch but I am still waiting for them to contact me.

"Contrary to what Monaro have said publicly, I did not apply for this year's job but thought it common courtesy for the club to talk to me before appointing someone else.

"Really we haven't spoken since winning promotion and their statement that I applied for the job simply is not true.

"I knew what the club needed in terms of preparation, finance, players, coaching staff, etc, from my past experience in the League yet they chose to ignore that advice and as a result are in heaps of trouble both on and off the field, changing their coach after only four games."

Fernandez, meanwhile, puts his considerable energies into his thriving motor mechanical repair business, playing (still) with Condor in the ACT amateur first division and following Canberra City Olympians. His 18-year-old son, Victor junior, is a member of Canberra's current championship-leading youth team.

SERVANT

As one of Australian soccer's great servants, real personalities and skilled players of the highest order, one feels Inter Monaro and soccer in general missed out when Fernandez was unceremoniously dumped by Monaro after taking them into the NSL.

Monaro may still avoid relegation — and the host of problems one hears in Canberra — during 1985.

Had they listened to someone who has "been there," the chances are that their cruel baptism may have been a lot easier to bear.



VIC FERNANDEZ



FARINA EXCLUSION IS SURPRISE



QUEENSLAND soccer officials have been stunned by the exclusion of former Maroon Youth player Frank Farina from the New South Wales squad to play at Perry Park in Brisbane on Anzac Day, April 25.

"I thought Farina would be picked first on form but also because he would have been an ideal drawcard up here," Queensland coach Bruce Stowell said.

And while Stowell had faith his team could contain the former Youth Soccerroo, now with Sydney City, he admitted he believed the winger

BY GREG RUSSELL

could have caused problems.

Apart from the exclusion of Farina, Alan Vest's 18-man squad contained few surprises for Stowell.

He had been expecting a near Soccerroo-strength side, but despite the green and gold tinge to the NSW side, Stowell believes NSW are very beatable.

"If everyone in the Queensland team believes in himself and plays to his ability, we can win," he said.

Stowell said the make-up of the NSW squad has in fact justified his own selections, made a week earlier.

"With this line-up in mind, it has proved

my selections were the right ones and there certainly is no way that I will waver from the way I always intended to play NSW," he said.

Although Stowell is reluctant to openly admit it, it's almost certain he will use four midfielders against the Blues. But as usual Stowell will not name his final side until just before kick-off.

"I think everyone should come to the match in the frame of mind that they are playing. Anything could happen at the last moment and if a player had resigned himself to sitting on the bench then he would find it difficult to get properly motivated to take the field," he said.



LIONS BATTLE TO RETAIN STARS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other Lions players, including Danny Wright and Joe Cairney, are also potential targets for southern clubs and Lions fear that unless they can secure a major trophy this year their team will be decimated at the end of this season.

"There's not a great deal we can do about it because we have only limited financial resources. It is very hard to match the offers that are being made," the official said.

Wright in particular had a fine game against South Melbourne and looks set to rocket back to his best form after spending much of the past 12 months on the sidelines with an ankle injury.

The former Young Soccerroo is certain to be named in Bruce Stowell's Queensland team to play New South Wales on April 25 and is hoping national coach Frank Arok attends the game.

Wright wants to win back his Soccerroo place he was forced to relinquish because of the ankle injury last week.

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Johnny Warren Soccerroo Academy,

Gold Creek Homestead, PO Box 362, Belconnen 2617.

Please note: \$25 discount to ASW readers off normal enrolments.

Name	Age
Address	
Post Code	
Phone	
Club	
Position	



BUTTERCUP BAKERIES



NSL CHANCE PASSES BY FOR HENRY

BY BRAD EARL

VETERAN striker Dez Marton has added a touch of class to Australian soccer since arriving from Yugoslavia to play for St George four years ago.

A player who is currently captaining TNT Skypak League club Polonia could have had the same effect on the Australian game but he has never received the same sort of publicity as Marton.

At 36, Henry Sobczyk is nearing the end of his playing career but, like Marton, he still displays classy European skills and tremendous vision.

Ironically, he may have ended up as well-known and popular as Marton at St George if events had taken a different path six years ago.

At that time, Sobczyk, playing in the Polish first division, was sent a contract by St George but he was un-

able to gain a release from his homeland.

He left Poland in 1981 to join Polish-backed NSW State League club Polonia, together with goalkeeper Ziggy Kalinowski, sweeper Antek Galas and midfielder Ziggy Garlowski.

The quartet gave Polonia a stylish look and guided them into the State League semi-finals in that first season.

However, now, four years later, Sobczyk is the only survivor of that quality group of imports.

He has stood loyally by the Polonia club even though he admits he has had offers from National League clubs.

"But I'm too young," he says with a smile.

This year he is controlling the play from midfield, which was his position in Poland despite playing as a striker in previous seasons with Polonia.

With typical modesty, Sobczyk said I shouldn't be doing an article on him but on Polonia's latest Polish import, Andrew Pop.

He says Pop, a striker, will be a big success in State League this year.

The pair combined to score a great goal for Polonia in their opening League match against Canterbury-Marrickville. Sobczyk laid on an excellent pass for Pop to get in behind the Canterbury defence and score with a powerful shot.

As to the future, Sobczyk said he is looking forward to moving into coaching.

For the time being, though, he is quite content to be leading Polonia in their 1985 State League campaign.



HENRY SOBCZYK



DEZ MARTON on the ball for St George, challenged by Sydney Croatia defender Bruno Vidacic.

BLANCO BANKS ON KIRWAN

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE OLYMPIC's new left winger, Paul Kirwan, doesn't regard himself as a National League failure.

That's because he reckons he never had a chance to succeed dur-

ing his spell with Sydney Croatia last season.

An out-and-out winger, Kirwan is rated by his coach at Canterbury, Raul Blanco, as "a class player."

Kirwan came to Australia from Ireland in 1982, and had two sea-

sons in State League with Blacktown City.

He played for Dublin clubs Shelbourne and St Patrick's Athletic in the League of Ireland prior to coming to Australia.

Kirwan says of his disappointing spell with Sydney Croatia last year: "I only had about four games in the

first team and only played occasionally in the youth team.

"If I had played regularly in the NSL and failed, then I would have to say I didn't make the grade, but I never had the chance to establish myself.

BY BRAD EARL

TNT SKYPAK SOCCER LEAGUE

SATURDAY APRIL 20:

MANLY WARRINGAH v KU-RING-GAI..... CROMER PARK

SUNDAY APRIL 21:

FAIRY MEADOW v ROCKDALE ILINDEN..... MEMORIAL PARK

URUGUAY AUBURN v CANTERBURY M'VILLE..... MONA PARK

AVALA v SUTHERLAND..... KNIGHT PARK

POLONIA v MELITA EAGLES..... CHOPIN PARK

BANKSTOWN NATIONAL v WARRINGAH N'BEEN..... JENSEN PARK

SECOND DIVISION

SATURDAY APRIL 20:

Artarmon v Wollongong Macedonia

Artarmon Reserve

SUNDAY APRIL 21:

Queens Park v Penrith United

Erskineville Oval

Campbelltown City v Gladesville Hby

Lynwood Park

Yugal v Canterbury & District

Ground to be advised

Blacktown United v North Bankstown

Francis Park

Bathurst '75 v Dee Why

Proctor Park

THIRD DIVISION

SATURDAY APRIL 20:

Baulkham Hills v Kingsford

Ted Horwood Reserve

Port Hacking v Mt Druitt Town

Seymour Shaw Park

SUNDAY APRIL 21:

King Tomislav v Moorebank-Liverpool

Croatian Sports Ground

Rooty Hill v Bondi Marine

Cawarra Park

Campbelltown Gunners v Granville Dist

Bensley Road

Uni of NSW v North Ryde RSL

Little Bay Oval

NEXT WEEK'S GAMES

SATURDAY APRIL 27:

WARRINGAH NARRABEEN v POLONIA NARRABEEN FITNESS CAMP

ROCKDALE ILINDEN v MANLY WARRINGAH..... HURSTVILLE OVAL

SUNDAY APRIL 28:

CANTERBURY-M'VILLE v FAIRY MEADOW..... ARLINGTON OVAL

KU-RING-GAI v BANKSTOWN NATIONAL..... PARKLANDS OVAL

SUTHERLAND v URUGUAY AUBURN..... SEYMOUR SHAW PARK

PARRAMATTA MELITA EAGLES v AVALA..... MELITA STADIUM



KIRWAN pictured on one of the rare occasions he played in Croatia's NSL team last season — tackled by Marconi's John Djordjevic.



PAUL KIRWAN

NSW TNT SKYPAK LEAGUE

TNT SKYPAK SOCCER LEAGUE

	1st	2nd	3rd
Parramatta Melita v Warringah N'been.....	4-0	6-1	4-0
Ku-ring-gai v Fairy Meadow.....	2-0	1-0	1-6
Manly Warringah v Bankstown National.....	2-0	8-1	5-0
Rockdale Ilinden v Uruguay Auburn.....	3-0	0-2	1-4
Avala v Cant-M'ville Olympic.....	4-1	1-1	3-0
Sutherland v Polonia.....	3-0	4-1	5-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sutherland	2	2	0	0	5	0	4
Avala	2	1	1	0	4	1	3
Rockdale Ilinden	2	1	1	0	3	0	3
Ku-ring-gai	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Parramatta Melita	1	1	0	0	4	0	2
Manly Warringah	2	1	0	1	2	1	2
Canterbury-M'ville	2	1	0	1	5	5	2
Fairy Meadow	2	1	0	1	1	2	2
Uruguay Auburn	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Bankstown National	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Polonia	2	0	0	2	1	7	0
Warringah N'been	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

STATE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

Penrith United v Yugal.....	2-2	2-0	3-1
North Bankstown v Artarmon.....	2-0	2-1	forfeit
Gladesville Hornsby v Queens Park.....	1-1	3-0	2-0
Campbelltown City v Bathurst '75.....	2-1	4-0	2-1
Canterbury & Dist v Blacktown United.....	0-8	0-5	1-0
Wollongong Macedonia v Dee Why.....	4-0	2-1	2-5

STATE LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blacktown United	2	2	0	0	9	0	4
Campbelltown City	2	2	0	0	3	1	4
W'gong Macedonia	2	1	1	0	5	1	3
Queens Park	2	1	1	0	2	1	3
North Bankstown	2	1	0	1	3	2	2
Artarmon	2	1	0	1	3	3	2
Dee Why	2	1	0	1	2	5	2
Yugal	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Penrith United	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Gladesville Hornsby	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Bathurst '75	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Canterbury & Dist	2	0	0	2	1	11	0

STATE LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

Bondi Marine v King Tomislav.....	1-1	4-1	3-1
Rooty Hill v Port Hacking.....	1-2	1-2	0-1
M'bank-L'pool v C'belltown Gunners.....	1-0	0-0	2-2
Granville District v Baulkham Hills.....	2-3	0-3	1-2
Kingsford v University of NSW.....	2-0	2-1	3-2
North Ryde RSL v Mt Druitt Town.....	4-0	2-0	1-3

INTER URBAN FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
North Ryde	2	2	0	0	7	0	4
Kingsford	2	2	0	0	8	3	4
Moorebank-L'pool	2	2	0	0	3	0	4
Bondi Marine	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
King Tomislav	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Uni of NSW	2	1	0	1	4	5	2
Baulkham Hills	2	1	0	1	3	4	2
C'belltown Gunners	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Rooty Hill	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Granville District	2	0	0	2	5	7	0
Port Hacking	2	0	0	2	1	5	0
Mt Druitt Town	2	0	0	2	3	10	0

INTER URBAN SECOND DIVISION

Macquarie University v Chile Sports.....	0-2	6-2
Maroubra United v Concordia.....	1-2	1-4
Hawkesbury Dist v Pagewood.....	1-2	0-3
Chelsea v Macarthur United.....	2-0	2-1
Trasandinos Sports v Green Valley.....	2-0	1-1
Wentworth Waratah v Liverpool City.....	1-4	0-1

INTER URBAN THIRD DIVISION

Robins v Blacktown Wands.....	3-2	0-4
Dulwich Hill v Concord Juniors.....	3-1	1-1
Rangers Hadjuk v Sydney Maccabi.....	4-3	1-1
Smithfield v Chullora.....	3-4	0-2
Haberfield B/D's v Rosebery.....	1-1	2-2
Welcome Sports bye		

INTER URBAN FOURTH DIVISION

Petersham Lusitanos v Lansvale United.....	2-1	2-2
Argentinian Lid/Utd v Greenisland.....	1-3	2-5
Macedonia Yagooa v Colo Colo.....	2-0	0-1
Castle Hill v Nepean Rovers.....	6-1	4-0
Blacktown Workers v Lithgow Workmans.....	0-2	1-0
Jedinstvo United v Murray Farm Rangers.....	1-0	0-8

INTER URBAN FIFTH DIVISION

Crescent Star v Fairfield Athletic.....	4-1	2-3
Hellas Poseidon v Highlands.....	1-4	1-2
Abuzzi v Cyprus United.....	0-0	0-1
Luddenham Croatia v Colombian.....	2-3	1-8
Santiago Wands v Amal.....	3-2	3-5

FULL-STRENGTH MELITA GET FIRST-UP WIN

BY BRAD EARL

PARRAMATTA MELITA coach Mike Jones fielded his first-choice team for the first time when the Eagles opened their TNT Skypak League campaign with a 4-0 win over Warringah Narrabeen at Melita Stadium.

"That's the first time I've been able to put that side on the park since January," Jones said in reference to a run of injuries to key players in pre-season.

Melita scored two goals in an eight minute period before half-time and added the other two midway through the second half after the visitors failed to convert a penalty.

Warringah fought hard and managed to create some chances — particularly in the first half — but lacked the necessary finishing expertise.

Melita opened their account in the 37th minute when Jay O'Rourke scored from the penalty spot after a Warringah defender

handled a Peter Hensman cross.

Hensman provided the pass for the second goal when he cut the ball square across the penalty area right on half-time. Barry Walker settled the ball for a shot but instead left it to Billy Griffiths to finish with a strong left foot shot.

Warringah won a penalty in the 67th minute when Derek Laing handballed, but John Van Heldon's shot was punched clear by the diving Melita goalkeeper, Richard Mullen.

Mullen, a former Welsh Youth international, was making his debut for the Eagles and acquitted himself well.

Melita took advantage of Warringah's misfortune with another goal three minutes later, scored by central striker Walker with a shot from the left side of the box.

Hensman suffered a groin injury and was replaced by Lenny Vial in the 73rd minute, and Vial cut in from the right wing position to hit a powerful shot for the fourth goal in the 81st minute.

Jones has built his Melita side on experience, and it is moulded around central defenders Col McAusland and Kenny Wilson and central midfielder Alec Jamieson.

Man of the match: after a year of retire-



PETER HENSMAN: welcome return.

ment, winger PETER HENSMAN made a welcome return to League football by setting up Melita's first two goals.

PARRAMATTA MELITA: Mullen, McPherson, O'Rourke, McAusland,

Wilson, Laing, Jamieson, Farrugia, Hensman (Vial 73), Walker, Griffiths.

WARRINGAH: P. Dean, Akoutas, Geekie, Watt, Yamine, Jones, A. Dean, Gale, Sarge, Van Heldon (Hanley 77), Hodgson. REFEREE: K. Tooke. CROWD: 400.

AVALA'S SECOND HALF EFFORT

BY FRANK COLETTA

IF the first half was any indication, Raul Blanco's Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic side would have been travelling home yesterday with the two competition points ... but this was not to be.

A rejuvenated Avala came out in the second half and absolutely steamrolled Canterbury for a 4-1 victory.

Whatever Avala's coach Vic Dalgleish had to say at the break really worked wonders as his team mauled the Olympic side.

The opening goal was scored by Canterbury centre-forward Louis Dounis after 12 minutes.

A minute before scoring, Dounis made a good raid only to be foiled by the Avala defence after a goal-mouth scramble.

Immediately after the melee, a free-kick was awarded to Canterbury on the right. Paul Kirwan, who until this stage had given Tony Jordan a torrid time, took it and found Dounis five metres out, who duly scored.

Right on the stroke of half-time, Ray Carney looped over a cross which found the unmarked Robert Lucchesi. Lucchesi picked his spot and blasted home.

Avala seemed to lack a midfield orchestrator all the way through but were able to hurdle this obstacle and come out on top.

In the 60th minute

Lucchesi was on hand once again to put Avala ahead.

Canterbury had narrowly missed out on scoring when John Karaspyros whipped in a devilish cross from the right straight across Bruce Thurlow's goalmouth.

Avala quickly capitalised on Olympic's misfortune by pumping the ball upfield; Tim Anderson crossed first-time and a clearing header landed right on Lucchesi's left foot and his strike gave Canterbury keeper Chris Hummel no chance.

Given his chance by Dalgleish, Lucchesi went out and vindicated his selection by running himself into the ground in both defence and attack.

Seven minutes on, Avala wrapped the match up when a scramble involving Hummel and Glen Jeffrey ended with the other new boy, Anderson, driving home.

For good measure replacement winger Mick Bratkovic scored in the 91st minute after Carney had done some good lead up-work.

Canterbury had their moments, with Spiro Hantzis, Kirwan and Dounis doing their side proud. Kirwan was very inven-

tive and a couple of his strikes had Thurlow working hard.

Man of the match: ROBERT LUCCHESI for his two goals and unyielding drive and determination, just ahead of John Lembyrk.

AVALA: Thurlow, Jordan, Dobson, Lembyrk, D'vanti, Lucchesi (Pratt 87), Ataglio, Jeffrey, Tracey, Carney, Andersen (Bratkovic 88).

CANTERBURY: Hummel, Karaspyros, Hantzis, Ethnisiadis, Pena, Ortega, Silva (Antonopoulos 60), Anagnostopoulos, Dounis, Borges, Kirwan. REFEREE: M. Loupis. CROWD: 1,200.

MINUS four of their regulars, Ku-ring-gai were able to down an effervescent Fairy Meadow side 2-0 with newcomer Rob McKegan the star.

At the two minute mark, Chris Quigley took a free-kick from the right and McKegan placed his header home beautifully.

The Meadow forwards made Ku-ring-gai's defence work to preserve their nil goals against tally.

Fontana and Baker led the way but were unable to deliver the necessary goals, although Fontana was disallowed a goal when keeper David Curtis was fouled.

In the 52nd minute David Bennett scored

after Fairy Meadow keeper Warwick Young had made two successive saves.

The game was very entertaining as chance after chance was given and taken. In the end it was the side that could finish that took the points home.

KU-RING-GAI: Curtis, Kavern, Goldsworthy, Bertram, Watson, Bennett, Sutherland, Quigley, Ellem, McKegan, Nile.

FAIRY MEADOW: Young, Chilby, Morlando, Jones, Beringer (White), Piel (N.Williams), Mowbray, Richardson, Giraldi, Baker, Fontana.

THREE of the highest quality goals ever seen in the one game served to paradox a Rockdale victory over Uruguay Auburn that was disappointing because of missed opportunities.

In front of a very large and vocal crowd, Rockdale were always going to win — which they did 3-0 — but Uruguay were always going to make it difficult.

The first goal after 51 minutes was a bobby-dazzler: midfielder Georgeos hitting a 30 metre volley home to give his side the lead.

Four minutes later Jimmy Nasteviski attempted to upstage his midfield colleague. When a free-

kick was punched away by goalkeeper Carlos Rosano, it landed 20 metres out and Nasteviski blasted it into the net.

Then with five minutes remaining Geoff Wilson delivered the knockout blow with an 18 metre drive along the ground from a free-kick and in.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN: Kotzahombos, Blackburn, D. Wilson, Pilovski, G. Wilson, Papas, Nasteviski, Slavski, Brown, Georgeos (Lee 75), Ferguson.

URUGUAY AUBURN: Rosano, Jones, Folladosa, Hastie, Krslovic, Fernandez, Barbelo, Cuba, Oshana, Rodas, Rodas, Pagano.

A DISCIPLINED effort by the Sharks gave them a 3-0 victory over Polonia and consequently the lead in the State League.

Sutherland opened their account through a Brett Nelson header from a corner.

With the Polonia back-four seemingly a little suspect, Sutherland went into consistent raids on goal which eventuated in Nigel Groome collecting a goal and also Vic Dal Forno one from the penalty spot.

IN an entertaining match which was much appreciated by the large crowd, Manly got on top early and kept a firm grip on the match all the way through to defeat Bankstown National 2-0.

Dudley Fox opened the Manly account with a flying scissors kick after a cross from the left.

Manly's one-touch stuff was greeted warmly by the spectators as the Seaside's midfielder made the ball do the work constantly.

Mark Holloway goaled in the 33rd minute when Jimmy Campbell, Manly's livewire midfielder, chipped onto his head and the rest is history.

JUNIOR SCENE



Compiled by
Keith Gilmour

CALL FOR YOUTH LEAGUE REVIEW

THE further reforms for the NSW Under 13-16 Youth League canvassed in the ASW issue of April 1 have stirred up a hornet's nest.

The drift of the suggestions is that a March-September season is needed, which would mean two divisions instead of three.

One interesting proposal was to the effect that the first division could play the longer season and the second division a shorter one, as the players do not have the same high hopes of reaching leading clubs.

Another was that the senior club and association representative teams could again separate. It is doubtful whether this would happen.

Points were also made that many players have too much soccer too soon in their young lives, and that perhaps the clubs could have Under 11 and 12 Metropolitan Championship teams as well as the associations.

The fact that too many teams are involved was a major point, especially as the object of the exercise is to provide for players of real potential. Unfairly the smaller associations can be hurt.

And it seems that the NSW country branches are devaluing the end-of-season state titles by their own actions.

Leading association teams are entered, so they are not branch teams at all.

CONNORS - NEPEAN GUIDING HAND

BY GEORGE CHURCHWARD

UNDER the guiding hand of coach Matt Connors, the Nepean U15 NSW Youth League team has got away to a great start for the 1985 season.

Matt took over after the same grade last season, having come through as club coach with local Nepean Association club Kemps Creek.

His interesting career began as a youngster in Northern Ireland with Belfast Celtic.

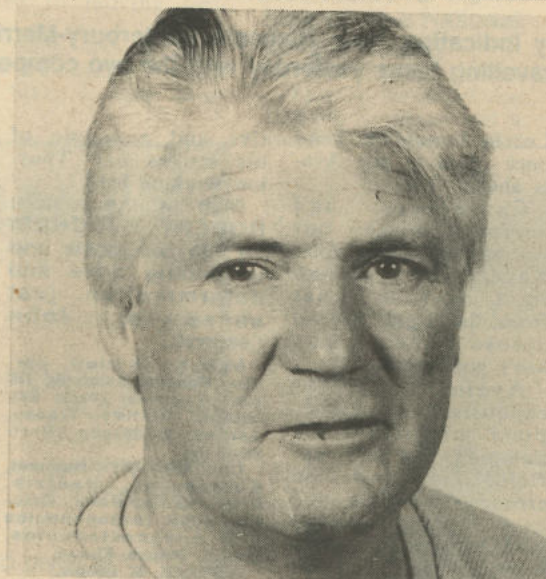
Then he joined the army, continuing on until he sustained an injury that put him out of the game.

But for Matt football didn't end there. He took the Army Football Association coaching course and teams under his guidance went on to win a number of competitions.

He left the army in 1969 with the rank of staff sergeant and emigrated to Australia two years later.

Before joining Nepean he coached Beverley Hills Methodist in the strong NSW Churches Football Association and also Beverley Hills YMCA in the summer competition.

These days Matt works as a boilermaker-welder and lives at St Marys.



NEPEAN'S Under 15 Youth League coach, Matt Connors.

CANTERBURY'S IMPROVEMENT

CANTERBURY ASSOCIATION'S Youth League teams should put on a much better showing this season, according to representative convenor Danny McKilbride.

Easter provided a drawback as many youngsters were away on holidays but the Berries should pick it up from there.

A couple of Under 14 players are trialling for the NSW squad as against none in 1984.

Alan Wastell, former director of coaching with Southern Districts, is in charge of the U14 team, where he is assisted by Mick Aiello.

Coach George Amore is working hard with the U13s along with manager Paul Bray.

Geoff Wheatley is the U15 coach with Barbara Richardson as manager. Sam Cardillo has the U16s along with Roger Gander.

Manly upgrades coaching panel

NSW YOUTH LEAGUE Group B will have a strong presence from Manly Warringah due to an upgrading of their coaching panel.

Association official Don Logan said: "This year we have three former Manly first graders on the job with plenty of other experience besides."

"The Association runs the teams but we work hand in glove with the Manly State League club, who keep a close

eye on developing Under 16 players for the third grade squad."

Hugh Hendry has the U16s. He was a Manly first grade regular and coached the reserve team and also Dee Why.

Another first grader who also coached the reserves, Ian Mackay, has the U15s.

The other coaches are Kyp Kyriacou (U14) and Bob Warner-Smith (U13).

The Manly boys are fortunate that former goalkeeping star Jan Tuinman handles the keepers.

And in Cromer Park they have a ground with top facilities on which to play their matches.

ILLAWARRA 13s TRIUMPH OVER BLACKTOWN

ILLAWARRA, standing on the bottom of U13 Group A, knocked over leaders and Mini Ampol Cup winners Blacktown City at Lysaghts Oval on Saturday.

The 3-2 win served as a warning to all teams that make the trip south this season.

It was their first home game and Illawarra showed unbridled determination and commitment in their well-deserved victory.

They kept going forward and finally the young Demons fell apart under the pressure.

The teams stood at 1-1 at half-time. Blacktown took the lead and Illawarra equalised soon afterwards.

Then five minutes from the end Illawarra collected the winner from a well executed free-kick.

Although Macarthur Group C U13 team could not master the crack Sydney City outfit and lost 5-0, they and all the other Macarthur teams are doing better than expected.

The results over grades produced 1-1 draws in U14 and U15 and 1-4 in U16.

Sweeper/striker John Weston has scored in every game to date for the U14s. This time he came on with five minutes to go and conjured up the equaliser.

Team coach Danny Himbrechts, who is the NSW Country U13 coach, was pleased with the display by Graham Doing, who has also picked up goals in state championships.

The team has been boosted by the return of a few players from Melita Eagles.

Macarthur is in its third Youth League season, whereas neighbours Campbelltown City have only entered this year.

Talk of animosity between the club is way off the mark, Himbrechts says. Campbelltown City had the bye on Saturday and many of their people were at Ponderosa Park to support Macarthur.

YOUTH LEAGUE

YOUTH LEAGUE ROUND 3 GROUP A

	U13	U14	U15	U16
Granville v Apia	0-1	0-5	0-8	1-6
Sutherland v St George	1-2	0-1	1-4	1-5
Canterbury-Melita v Nepean	1-2	1-0	1-5	0-4
Marconi v Sydney Olympic	1-1	0-4	1-1	3-0
Illawarra v Blacktown City	3-2	3-2	1-1	1-0

GROUP B

Central Coast v Nth Bankstown	1-2	1-0	1-1	3-2
Baulkham Hills v Ku-ring-gai	0-1	4-0	2-0	1-11
Croatia v Melita	0-3	0-6	2-3	3-1
Southern Dists v Gladesville	2-1	0-1	1-2	0-0
Manly v Avala	1-1	0-0	1-2	2-0

GROUP C

Rockdale v Yugal	8-0	3-1	3-3	3-1
Macarthur v Sydney City	0-5	1-1	1-1	1-4
Canterbury v Bankstown	4-1	2-5	1-1	6-0
Blacktown v Bathurst '75	5-0	0-6	8-0	2-1
Campbelltown bye				

U13: GROUP A: St George 4, Leichhardt 4, Nepean 4, Blacktown City 4, Olympic 3, Marconi 3, Sutherland 2, Illawarra 2, Granville 2, Canterbury-Marr 2.

GROUP B: North Bankstown 6, Melita 4, Central Coast 4, South Dists 4, Ku-ring-gai 4, Manly 3, Avala 3, Gladesville 2, Baulkham Hills 0, Croatia 0.

GROUP C: Blacktown Assn 6, Sydney City 6, Macarthur 4, Canterbury 4, Campbelltown 4, Bankstown 2, Bathurst '75 2, Rockdale 2, Yugal 0.

U14: GROUP A: Olympic 6, St George 6, Leichhardt 5, Canterbury-Marr 4, Marconi 3, Nepean 1, Sutherland 1, Blacktown City 1, Granville 1.

GROUP B: Melita 6, Avala 5, Nth Bankstown 4, Ku-ring-gai 4, Central Coast 4, Manly 3, Baulkham Hills 2, Gladesville 2, Southern Dists 0, Croatia 0.

GROUP C: Bankstown 6, Rockdale 6, Macarthur 6, Bathurst '75 4, Blacktown 2, Sydney City 2, Yugal 2, Campbelltown 2, Canterbury 1.

U15: GROUP A: Nepean 5, Blacktown City 5, Illawarra 5, Leichhardt 4, Olympic 3, St George 2, Sutherland 2, Marconi 2, Canterbury-Marr 2, Granville 0.

GROUP B: Melita 6, North Bankstown 5, Gladesville 4, Avala 4, Manly 4, Baulkham Hills 2, Croatia 2, Southern Dists 2, Central Coast 1, Ku-ring-gai 0.

GROUP C: Blacktown 6, Macarthur 5, Sydney City 5, Campbelltown 4, Bankstown 3, Canterbury 3, Bathurst '75 2, Yugal 1, Rockdale 1.

U16: GROUP A: Marconi 6, St George 4, Olympic 4, Leichhardt 4, Nepean 4, Blacktown City 3, Canterbury-Marr 3, Illawarra 2, Sutherland 0, Granville 0.

GROUP B: Ku-ring-gai 6, Manly 6, Croatia 4, Avala 4, Southern Dists 3, Gladesville 3, Central Coast 2, Nth Bankstown 2, Baulkham Hills 0, Melita.

GROUP C: Sydney City 6, Bathurst '75 6, Rockdale 5, Canterbury 4, Campbelltown 3, Macarthur 2, Blacktown 2, Yugal 2, Bankstown 0.

SYDNEY YUGAL YOUTH LEAGUE

COACHES & PLAYERS WANTED

An additional coach is required by the above club for its Youth League ranks.

Also, more players for the Under 13 Youth Team are now wanted.

For further information, please contact:

Mr Paul Taliana,
Telephone 667 2941 after
5pm

TASSIES FOR TRELOAR CENTENARY CUP

HOBART and Northern Tasmania Primary Schools representative teams are two very welcome starters in the 1985 Treloar U12 Centenary Cup.

The series opens at Punchbowl Oval on Sunday, May 5 with the

final set down for Saturday, May 13.

The teams will play twice per day, on either the main oval or one of the two outer grounds.

Just prior to closure of entries there were six country representative teams ready for the draw.

They are: Macquarie (Newcastle), Southern

Tablelands (Goulburn), Griffith (MIA), Mid North Coast (Coffs Harbour), Central Coast (Gosford) and Albury-Wodonga (Border area).

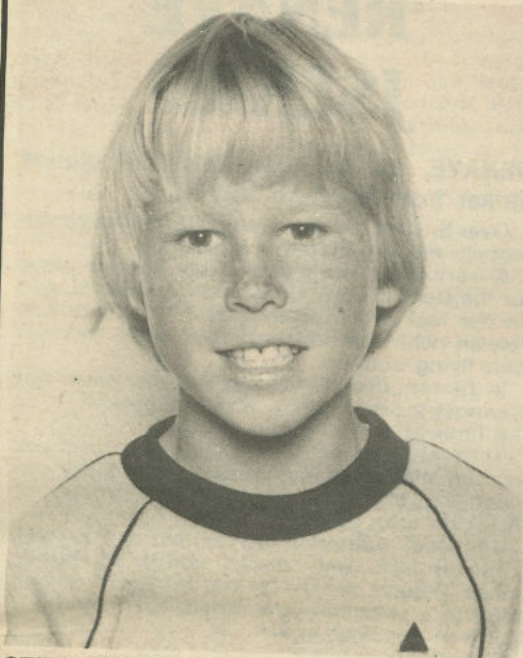
From Sydney and surrounds come Sutherland, Gladesville, St George, Southern Districts, Ku-ring-gai, Canterbury, Macarthur, Illawarra and

Blacktown Associations.

The tournament director is Bill Cullinan, assisted by Barbara Tallis from Ku-ring-gai and Naomi Golding, the secretary of host association Canterbury.

Handling the vital role of referees appointment officer is Ku-ring-gai's John Hargreaves.

VICTORIAN TRIALLIST



STEPHEN COASE (pictured) 14, from the important Hume Highway junction town of Wangaratta, narrowly missed out on selection in the Victorian state side.

Despite that his determination has not been tarnished and he is keen to keep going ahead in soccer.

One of twins, he also enjoys tennis and hockey.

Recently he attended the Warrnambool Soccer Camp for a week. He has represented Albury-Wodonga and participated in a junior coaching clinic in Albury.

— FRANK FINLAY

NSW AMATEURS MAY CALENDAR

Sat 4 School holidays start schoolboys camp begins at Parklea.

Sun 5 Treloar U12 Centenary Cup commences at Punchbowl Oval. Round 1 metropolitan representatives.

Fri 10 Sydney Branch MCM

Sat 11 Treloar U12 Centenary Cup finals.

Sun 12 State teams enter training camp.

Fri 17 Training camp finishes.

Sat 18 Nominations close with St George Assn for Sid Tanner Cup.

Sun 19 Round 1, State, Robertson and NSW Amateur Cups.

Mon 20 Return from school holidays.

Fri 31 Western Branch MCM

— BILL CULLINAN

IPSWICH CUP TO MACQUARIE

MACQUARIE Junior Soccer Association Under 14 representative team has pulled off a tremendous coup by winning the Ipswich Cup.

The Macquarie boys have been on tour to England under coach Wayne Simpson, a former first grade player with Cessnock.

U13 TITLES SHOWPIECE

THE NSW Amateur Soccer Federation is aiming to turn the Australian Under 13 Championships into a showpiece competition this August.

The series takes place at Parklea in the August school holidays, with Greg Ankudinoff and Terry Coates in charge of the NSW team.

In Under 14, Max Groll is the NSW coach and John Hedison the manager for the trip to Adelaide.

The Under 15 coach is John Haynes and manager Harrie Denning. This grade will play in Melbourne.

INCENTIVES NECESSARY IN WEST

IT is surprising indeed that Mitchell Association in Western NSW is eliminating semi-finals, finals and grand finals from their competitions.

Right throughout most sports in Australia this system is played as compared with the English idea of first past the post.

It is difficult to argue against straight home and away competitions on the grounds of equity, but this is to leave a vital element out of consideration.

Soccer needs incentive. This can come in various forms such as coaching of superior quality, games against players of other towns, suburbs or groups, trophies and extra finals matches which can only be reached through good performances.

Give youngsters in the second, third and fourth teams the incentive to succeed as well as the leaders and they will respond to the challenge.

Families come together in an air of expectation for the games and the season then ends on a high note of excellence.

CELEBRATIONS AT ROCKHAMPTON

HEARTY congratulations to the Nerimbera Soccer Club of Rockhampton, which is this year celebrating the 75th anniversary of its foundation.

Actually it comes as rather a shock that this Queensland club is not that far behind some of the old names of Sydney (such as Granville), Newcastle and the Coalfields, and Illawarra, which are now around the century mark.

Nerimbera is inviting ex-club members to make contact and supply any items of history, old photographs or details of interesting events in the life of the club.

Reunion nights for past members and supporters are being arranged and items received will be displayed in the clubhouse at Pilbeam Park, Rockhampton.

Any readers with material which will help celebrate the Magpies' 75th anniversary are asked to either write to club president Darryl Dubois at 7 Peltophorum St, North Rockhampton, Qld 4701, or telephone him on (079) 28 2346 after 6pm.

ADMINISTRATION COURSES NEEDED

IN our issue of February 26, we referred to an excellent series of organisational booklets issued by the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation.

Originating in Western Australia, they cover subjects such as secretarial practice, the publicity officer's job and training and retraining of voluntary workers.

Other titles are to follow and the hope is that they get into the right hands.

But in this day and age, knowledge is advancing at a tremendous pace and so merely reading up a few precepts on a couple of topics can only do part of the job.

In essence what the code needs is a properly packaged course on administration training, which ties together the essentials of organising the game.

Topics to be handled by practical experts should include the organisational structure of soccer in Australia, international aspects and Australian ethnic and district affairs.

Normal topics include control of meetings and records, coaching and refereeing and also finance.

To these could be added promotion of the game including schools and tertiary education, fund-raising, legal aspects and insurance.

A concise course, which commercial enterprise might find, would lead to removal of some of the barriers which are delaying progress of the game.

KEEGAN JOINS RALE RASIC

RALE RASIC will have an extra special guest coach to help on the first day of his coaching camp at Arlington Oval next month.

Kevin Keegan, the greatest English star of the past decade, has agreed to put in an appearance on the opening morning from nine till noon.

The Rale Rasic Coaching Camp runs from Monday May 6 to Friday May 10 and is open to youngsters in the nine to 16 age-group.

This will be Kevin Keegan's ONLY coaching engagement during his much-awaited 11 days stay in Australia.

It has been made possible because the former England captain, who was expected to fly out of Sydney for London on May 6, has delayed his departure by 24 hours.

The SYDNEY SUN newspaper is joining Rasic in the staging of the

Monday guest appearance of Keegan.

The SUN will announce soon how a select number of youngsters can meet Kevin Keegan, but the best way to be certain of getting into Arlington Oval on Monday May 6 is to join the Rale Rasic Coaching Camp for the full week.

There has to be a restriction on the number of youngsters attending for the Kevin Keegan session, so it will be a case of first-in first-served.

In addition to Rasic — Australia's successful World Cup coach — other top coaches and players will be in attendance during the full week of the coaching camp.

OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

TWO GREATS LINK UP TO COACH YOUNG PLAYERS



RALE RASIC



KEVIN KEEGAN

RALE RASIC SOCCER CAMPS, in conjunction with CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE OLYMPIC SC and the SYDNEY SUN, present KEVIN KEEGAN at Arlington Oval on MONDAY, MAY 6.

RALE RASIC SOCCER CAMPS — Monday, May 6 to Friday, May 10 at Arlington Oval 9am to 12noon. More details in next week's ASW.

IF YOUR KIDS GET A KICK OUT OF SOCCER, THEY DESERVE THE BEST

International Profile



MANDI LANGLAAR

MANDI LANGLAAR's consistent form with Sydney club Killarney was rewarded late last year when then Australian coach Jim Selby drafted her into the national squad to travel to Taiwan for the Women's World Cup.

Mandi, 21, is an exceptionally intelligent, clear-thinking young lady, which was reflected in her constructive style of play as a defender in the tournament.

She made her debut for Australia at right-back in Australia's opening match against Japan.

Although nervous, Mandi took great care when making her tackles, electing to "read" the ball and time her strike, always aiming to come away with the ball rather than go for physical contact.

Another quality in Mandi's play was that, once she won possession, she always chose to make a short, crisp, precise pass to her nearest free team-mate rather than belt the ball wildly upfield in "lottery" fashion.

Playing with Mandi at the Killarney club are three other Australian internationals — Vicki Salmons, Margaret Petrov and Kristen Theile.

BIRTHDATE: July 29, 1963.

BIRTHPLACE: Castlecrag, Sydney.

HEIGHT: 5'6".

PLAYING POSITION: Centre-back for club and right or left full-back for Australia.

OCCUPATION: Postie for Australian Post.

CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Killarney, Lindfield, Forest then back to Killarney.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: All sorts including light rock.

FAVOURITE FILM STARS: Katherine Hepburn and Henry Fonda.

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Julie Dolan, Joanne Millman and Rose Van Bruinessen.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Brazil's Zico and England's Bryan Robson as well as Germany's No 10, Silvia Neid.

WHAT IMPRESSED YOU MOST AT THE WORLD TOURNAMENT IN TAIWAN: The splendid organisation, presentation, overall professionalism and the fabulous opening ceremony. It would be lovely if something like this could be staged here in Australia.

WHAT DO YOU HATE MOST WHEN OVERSEAS: The lack of preparation before departing Australia and the financial costs the girls have to bear to represent their country.

ADVICE TO OFFICIALS FOR FUTURE TOURS: To organise for the travelling squad to go into camp for at least a day or two before leaving Australia, so that the girls can get to know one another's playing style and develop some form of co-ordination. This would avoid experimentation with players overseas.

GRANGE THISTLE SHOOT FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

GRANGE THISTLE, one of Brisbane's leading women's soccer clubs, has lost the services of Australian captain Julie Dolan.

Dolan has moved back to Sydney.

However, the club has since acquired the playing services of former Australian representative player Leanne Priestly, Australian squad player Di Cameron and former Queensland state player Doris Haddock, who has just come back from Mt Isa.

Grange Thistle will field two teams in the SQWSA competition this season.

The first division side will be coached by Alan Waller, who last year coached Grange into third position in the championship, and has great aspirations to do even better this season.

Last year, Grange Thistle supplied four players to the Queensland state team which took part in the national titles held in Canberra.

They were Australia's vice-captain and Queensland captain Susan Monteath, Lisa Hadley, Stephenie McMahon and Julie Dolan.

Queensland ended up winning the Australian Championship in the ACT.

The club see Riverside and Easts as their major rivals in this year's club championship.

Riverside, although they have lost players due to retirement, still boast five current state players.

Easts have the Mill-

man sisters, Joanne and Kerry both national players who combine with a sprinkling of state players.

The club competition kicked off last weekend.

Grange have as their publicity officer, Ms Maurise Stephens, who was the team manager of the Queensland championship-winning side in Canberra.



SUSAN MONTEATH: Grange Thistle captain.

NEW STADIUM AT TAIPEI

TAIPEI CITY, Taiwan, is working on plans for the construction of the nation's first true soccer stadium of international standard.

It will be located in the northern sector of the city. When completed, the stadium will have a capacity of 20,000 seated people and will occupy an area of some 5.5 hectares.

The main building will be a four-story structure and will include within the complex broadcasting and press rooms, administrative offices, medical rooms, players' rest rooms, a soccer historical museum, a computerised classroom as well as an indoor 100 metre track.

Completion of the new super-structure is expected by 1987.

The Australian women's team played in the Municipal Stadium in Taipei City in the World Women's Invitational Football Tournament last December.



THE entrance to the Municipal Stadium in Taipei City, where the Australian team participated in the WWIFT last year. Taiwan are planning to build a major new stadium.

International Profile



RENAYE ISERIEF

RENAYE, 22, is Australia's tall, blonde striker from Northern NSW.

Over the last two years she has matured enormously on the international circuit.

A very hard working striker, Renaye plays for the Central NSW Coast club Budgewoi, and on her last two trips overseas to China and Taiwan with the national team, came through with flying colours.

In Taiwan, despite the fact that she never got amongst the goals, her work-rate proved to be the highest in the whole squad.

Time after time, Renaye would come back into the midfield to help in defence, and the moment Australia won possession she would set off again into attack.

Because Australia played with only two front-runners and lacked width on either flanks, Renaye constantly had no less than two defenders swarming around her the moment a ball was knocked to her.

Possessing a lethal shot and dominant in the air, Renaye seems assured of a place in the national side for many years to come.

Renaye's attitude to the code, powerful running and disciplined character, makes her a most valuable player for the national side and is a credit to herself and her family.

BIRTHDATE: February 6, 1963.

BIRTHPLACE: Newcastle, NSW.

HEIGHT: 5'10".

PLAYING POSITION: Striker.

OCCUPATION: Shop assistant.

CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Budgewoi, Northern NSW.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Leo Sayer, Spandau Ballet.

FAVOURITE FILM STARS: Jacqueline Bisset and Dudley Moore.

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Sandra Brentnall.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Liverpool's Kenny Dalglish, Spurs' Ossie Ardiles and West Germany's Silvia Neid.

WHAT IMPRESSED YOU MOST AT THE WORLD TOURNAMENT IN TAIWAN: The Football Association of Taiwan looked after us in first-class fashion. Their organisation was magnificent and just could not be faulted.

WHAT DO YOU HATE MOST WHEN OVERSEAS: A bit more help from the government if possible with bigger grants for travel expenditure to help the girls. It is a great financial strain for the players constantly paying out money most of us cannot afford.

ADVICE TO OFFICIALS FOR FUTURE TOURS: More effort, if possible, in preparing touring squads before departing Australia for overseas trips. It is something that you could call essential.

SYDNEY CITY WOMEN'S TEAM

Players Wanted



Experienced players (including goalkeepers) are now invited to trial with the above club which plays in the District 1 Division Soccer.

For further information, please contact! Mr Aad Van Der Stap, phone 308 811(ah).

Sydney City women's soccer team is sponsored by Sports Fashions



MITRE are proud to be sponsors of the Australian women's international Soccer team

FREEMAN TAKES OVER

WARNERS BAY High School teacher Paul Freeman is handling the schoolgirls' Rudy Roth and Ku-ring-gai Cup competitions in Newcastle-Hunter in the absence of Denise Collins, who is overseas.

Paul is no stranger though, having

coached many Warners Bay sides in the Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup.

With Dave Morris of West Wallsend High, he coached the 1981 Hunter Valley team on its New Zealand tour and last season he coached Warners Bay schoolgirls on their undefeated North Island tour.

He is one of three leading schools soccer administrators who hail from the soccer hotbed at the northern tip of Lake Macquarie.

DREAM FINAL LOOKS GOOD

THE European Cup Final everybody wants to see — the Final tipped even before the start of the season — now looks sure to take place.

With Juventus of Italy and Liverpool of England winning their semi-final first leg matches with goals to spare, both look certain to play in the Final in Brussels.

Juventus, playing in Turin, had no trouble overcoming Bordeaux 3-0 while Liverpool, on their Anfield ground, went one better, beating Panathinaikos of Greece 4-0.

Scorers for the Italian champions were Zibby Boniek, Massimo Briachi and, adding the final blow against the French team, France's international captain, Michel Platini.

In the Liverpool v Panathinaikos match, Ian Rush as usual was on target with two goals. John Wark and Irish defender Jim Beglin scored the other goals.

The various European first leg semi-finals also brought joy to another Merseyside team, English Cup holders Everton.



ders Everton.

They travelled to Munich to play Bayern Munich in the Cup Winners Cup and returned to England with an excellent 0-0 draw.

This result makes Everton clear favourites in the return leg at Goodison Park but the German fans have good cause to be upset.

In Munich, Bayern threw everything at the Everton defence and were cheated of their win by a magnificent goalkeeping exhibition from Welsh international Neville Southall.

In the UEFA Cup semi-final at San Siro Stadium in Milan, Inter had a comfortable 2-0 win over Real Madrid, goals going to Liam Brady, with a penalty

kick, and Allesandro Altobelli.

The other semi-final in this competition went to Hungary's Videoton in a 3-1 victory against Zvezdnicar. The result suggested Videoton, last round conquerors of Manchester United, are a team to be respected.

Finally, Rapid Vienna, who beat Glasgow Celtic in controversial circumstances, gained another prestige win against the famous Moscow Dynamo.

The Austrians finished on top 3-1 through goals by Lainier, Krankl and Hratic. Dynamo had opened the scoring with a penalty taken by Karatayev.

Second leg semi-finals in all three competitions will be played on Wednesday week.

European soccer: semi finals, first leg.
EUROPEAN CUP
In Liverpool: Liverpool (England) 4 Panathinaikos (Greece) 0. In Turin: Juventus (Italy) 3 Bordeaux (France) 0.
UEFA CUP
In Szekesfehervar: Videoton (Hungary) 3 Zvezdnicar Sarajevo (Yugoslavia) 1.
In Milan: Internazionale Milan (Italy) 2 Real Madrid (Spain) 0.
CUP WINNERS' CUP
In Vienna: Rapid Vienna (Austria) 3 Dynamo Moscow (Soviet Union) 1.
In Munich: Bayern Munich (West Germany) 0 Everton (England) 0.



LIAM BRADY

THE 'BEARS' OF MANCHESTER

MOST Danes have an excellent command of the English language, but occasionally, the odd word lets them down.

For instance, Danish international Jesper Olsen inspired a few laughs when he described his pleasant home in the Cheshire countryside near Manchester.

Said Jesper: "I love to sit in my garden and watch the bears scrambling up and down the trees."

The Manchester United Dane was referring to squirrels!

Incidentally, his Danish admirers should be proud of Jesper's achievements in his debut season at Old Trafford.

Good judges rate Olsen "the best newcomer in English football."



JESPER OLSEN

MENACE OF MEXICO

MEXICO will give European nations a lot of headaches when it stages next year's World Cup.

The heat and altitude in some areas is a killer, as the Europeans discovered in 1970 when the Cup was also staged in Mexico.

Surprisingly, though, England team manager Bobby Robson insists the playing conditions will not affect his choice of a World Cup squad.

"I want the best players for the job, that's all," said Robson.

"And I would pick the same players if the World Cup was being played in Belgium."

— ROBSON'S VIEW

BUSY MONTH FOR ENGLISH STARS

ENGLAND'S international players will be out of action as far as club commitments are concerned for a month.

They go into camp on May 16 for World Cup matches against Finland and Romania and the annual battle against Scotland.

On May 28, the English squad fly to Mexico for a tour and, hopefully, they'll be free to join their families for the summer holiday on June 17.



BOBBY ROBSON: the England boss has a warning for European teams.

NASL DEATH BLOW

NOW it's official. There will be no North American Soccer League this year — due to an amazing lack of interest.

Only two clubs still hold franchises — the last survivors being Minnesota Strikers and Toronto Blizzard.

Clearly they could not play against each other all season.

NASL caretaker president Clive Toye, a former Fleet Street football writer, said: "We simply ran out of time."

Yet a few years ago, North America was the boom area in development of world soccer, with crowds of 40,000 to 75,000 regularly watching the games.

MENOTTI AND A SPURS SECRET

ONE of the best-kept secrets of recent times concerns negotiations which took place between Argentina's Cesar Luis Menotti and London club Tottenham Hotspur.

Last May, when Keith Burkinshaw left Spurs, the manager's job was offered to Menotti.

The man who guided Argentina to success in the 1978 World Cup said his wife and family did not fancy living in England on an extended contract.

Now Menotti looks certain to take over as boss-man with Real Madrid.

And the job he turned down at Tottenham has been filled very capably by the "unknown" Peter Shreeves.



CESAR MENOTTI

RARE FLOP SOUNESS

IF Graeme Souness is, as his admirers claim, the best mid-field player in Europe, he showed none of his brilliance in the World Cup match against Wales in Glasgow.

Souness was virtually marked out of the game by Manchester City's Welshman, David Phillips.

And Phillips has never played a first team match for his club!



UK Scene

THUGS KILLED ENGLISH BID

ENGLAND, still upset about being refused permission to host the European Championships, believe the recent riots in the Luton v Millwall match were the straws which broke the camel's back.

English fans already had a bad name throughout Europe but TV clips of the Luton v Millwall hooliganism convinced European authorities that England was not a fit country to host the important championship.

West Germany will be the host nation.

EVERTON BUY STRIKER

JUST before transfer deadline time, FA Cup holders Everton made an important signing.

Everton bought the much-praised Paul Wilkinson from Grimsby Town for a fee of \$380,000.

He is a goalscoring forward.

CLARKE CLIMBS LADDER

YOU get some idea of Northern Ireland's shortage of top international players from the fact that Colin Clarke was picked to play against Spain.

Clarke is an English Fourth Division player with Tranmere Rovers.

But team boss Billy Bingham isn't worried. He has often had to scout in the lower divisions for his players.

Said Bingham: "I have a knack of spotting nobodies and turning them into somebodies and I think Colin will be one of them."

WOLVES WOEFUL STATE

WOLVES continue to struggle through one of the worst seasons in the club's long history.

Manager Tommy Docherty has had to borrow money from the Professional Footballers' Association to pay his players their weekly wages.

This has happened three times but as PFA secretary Gordon Taylor warns: "The situation cannot go on."

ALVIN ODD MAN OUT



WHEN England's team to play the Republic of Ireland was named, only one player was dumped from the squad which beat Northern Ireland.

The unlucky man out was West Ham centre-half Alvin Martin, and he wasn't happy about it.

"Why me? What did I do wrong in Belfast? There are not enough words to describe how disappointed I am," said Martin.

The sacking was particularly cruel because Martin has just fought his way back from injury after being out of the English side for two years.

HAMPDEN'S FACELIFT

THE capacity of Hampden Park, Glasgow, has been more than halved while rebuilding operations go ahead.

This historic stadium, which once accommodated 149,547 spectators, now has room for a capacity crowd of 62,000.

CHRIS WADDLE of Newcastle United is one of the hottest properties in English football and at least six top clubs would go over the million dollar mark to sign him.



CHRIS WADDLE

'RUBBISH' SAYS CHARLTON

But this did not prevent Waddle getting a huge rocket from Newcastle boss Jackie Charlton recently.

Charlton substituted Waddle in a recent match and explained

later: "I took him off because he was totally ineffective. I thought he was rubbish!"

Waddle was recently capped by England. It appears certain that he will not be with Newcastle much longer.

DOUBTS OVER MATCH VENUE

NO venue as been decided upon for the important World Cup elimination match in Wales between Wales and Scotland.

Originally the game was scheduled for Ninian Park, Cardiff, but Welsh team manager Mike England fancies a switch to the small Racecourse Ground at Wrexham — because his team has never been beaten in Wrexham.

Now comes another suggestion. Cardiff Arms Park, home of rugby union, is being suggested as the best ground for the big match.

Tolerance has improved between the codes. At one time, the staging of a soccer match on a rugby union ground was strictly taboo.

NAMING THOSE THUGS

LATEST idea to curb soccer hooliganism by spectators comes from Sheffield Wednesday.

Before a recent match, Wednesday used their loudspeakers to transmit the names and addresses of seven louts who had been banned for life from the ground.

The seven were all fined.

Wednesday boss Howard Wilkinson said: "These people should not be called football fans. They are hooligans and have no connection with soccer."

UNION GETS INTO ACT

BRITAIN's biggest trade union, the Transport and General Workers, is investigating the sacking of three employees by Birmingham City.

The three are two ground staff workers and an office girl.

The trio are claiming unfair dismissal, although Birmingham say the sackings were an economy measure.

Now the union claims team manager Ron Saunders is on \$1,500 a week plus a Jaguar and players get around \$1,000 a week — salaries which make the payment to the three sacked employees look like chickenfeed.

ALL THE WEEKEND ACTION FROM BRITAIN

LIVERPOOL BOSS ADMITS 'WE WERE LUCKY'

JOE FAGAN, manager of Liverpool, was the first to admit his team was lucky to survive the weekend FA Cup semi-final against Manchester United at Goodison Park.

Liverpool scrambled a 2-2 draw, getting "out of jail" twice in a match packed with incident.

Trailing 1-0 with only three minutes left, Liverpool forced the match into extra-time with a rocket shot by Ronnie Whelan to equalise Bryan Robson's opening United goal.

Then, in extra-time, Frank Stapleton again shot United into the lead with a goal which looked like taking the Manchester men to Wembley.

But it was not to be. Only one minute of extra-time remained when substitute Paul Walsh shattered United with the goal which means the teams must replay on Wednesday at Maine Road, Manchester.

As Joe Fagan said: "United were the better side. We got away with it and the players will be the first to admit it. We never looked like scoring goals."

If Liverpool were lucky, so were their Merseyside neighbours, Everton, who were also taken to extra-time against the unrated Luton Town.

In fact, Luton were 1-0 ahead at half-time when Everton manager Howard Kendall was honest enough to say: "We were fortunate to be only one goal down."

Ricky Hill had

shocked Everton with a 37th minute goal and the outsiders held on to this lead until, just like Liverpool, Everton forced extra-time with the equalising goal three minutes from the end.

Kevin Sheedy was the man whose goal saved the Cup-holders.

In extra-time, Derek Mountfield supplied the killer blow to end Luton's interest in the Cup for another year.

In the Scottish FA Cup semi-finals, neither match produced a firm result and this means two more replays on Wednesday.

At Tynecastle, Aberdeen and Dundee United played a 0-0 draw to dent Aberdeen's hopes of winning the Cup four years running.

And at Hampden Park, Celtic drew 1-1 with Motherwell, getting an equalising goal from Tommy Burns after Gary McAllister had given the underdogs of Motherwell an unexpected 1-0 lead.

Despite these draws, all the betting is still on a Celtic v Aberdeen Scottish Cup Final.



ENGLISH DIVISION ONE										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Everton	32	21	6	5	71	35	69			
Man Utd	35	19	8	8	67	37	65			
Tottenham	34	19	7	8	64	36	64			
Sheffield Wed	35	15	13	7	52	37	58			
Liverpool	33	16	9	8	49	25	57			
Southampton	35	16	9	10	47	42	57			
Arsenal	36	16	8	12	54	43	56			
Notts Forest	35	16	6	13	50	42	54			
Chelsea	34	13	11	10	49	39	50			
Aston Villa	35	13	10	12	48	49	49			
West Bromwich	35	13	6	16	46	52	45			
Newcastle	36	11	12	13	49	62	45			
QPR	36	11	11	14	44	56	44			
Leicester	36	12	6	18	56	62	42			
Norwich	34	11	9	14	39	50	42			
Watford	34	10	11	13	61	60	41			
West Ham	33	9	11	13	41	54	38			
Sunderland	35	10	8	17	37	50	38			
Ipswich	33	9	9	15	33	46	36			
Luton	32	9	8	15	41	53	35			
Coventry	32	10	4	18	35	52	34			
Stoke	34	3	8	23	20	71	17			
ENGLISH DIVISION TWO										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Oxford	35	21	7	7	67	29	70			
Birmingham	36	20	6	10	50	32	66			
Portsmouth	37	17	14	6	61	45	65			
Blackburn	36	18	10	8	57	37	64			
Manc City	37	18	10	9	55	35	64			
Leeds	37	17	10	10	61	39	61			
Brighton	36	16	11	9	40	27	59			
Shrewsbury	36	15	11	10	59	48	56			
Grimsby	36	16	7	13	64	53	55			
Barnsley	35	14	13	8	41	31	55			
Fulham	36	16	6	14	58	59	54			
Wimbledon	35	15	6	14	64	67	51			
Huddersfield	35	14	9	12	47	50	51			
Carlisle	37	13	7	17	46	54	46			
Oldham	37	12	7	18	39	59	43			
Sheff Utd	36	10	12	14	51	57	42			
Charlton	36	10	9	17	44	52	39			
Crystal Palace	35	8	12	15	39	58	36			
Middlesbrough	37	8	9	20	37	52	33			
Wolves	37	7	8	22	33	65	29			
Notts County	36	7	6	23	35	66	27			
Cardiff	36	6	8	22	39	72	26			
ENGLISH DIVISION THREE										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Bradford	39	24	9	6	64	34	81			
Hull	40	21	12	7	68	43	75			
Millwall	38	20	10	8	57	35	70			
Gillingham	38	20	7	11	63	52	67			
Bristol City	38	20	6	12	60	40	66			
Bristol Rovers	38	19	9	10	55	39	66			
Rotherham	40	17	11	12	53	45	62			
Walsall	38	17	10	11	54	43	61			
Bournemouth	40	17	9	14	49	41	60			
York	39	16	8	15	60	50	56			
Derby	39	15	11	13	53	47	56			
Reading	36	16	8	12	53	47	56			
Newport	38	13	12	13	50	52	51			
Doncaster	38	14	7	17	58	59	49			
Plymouth	39	12	12	15	53	59	48			
Bolton	41	14	5	22	60	63	47			
Brentford	38	12	10	16	51	60	46			
Lincoln	38	10	15	13	44	41	45			
Wigan	37	10	12	15	39	48	42			
Preston	39	12	5	22	46	84	41			
Burnley	39	9	12	18	53	61	39			
Orient	39	10	9	20	47	71	39			
Swansea	39	9	9	21	44	72	36			
Cambridge	38	3	8	27	32	80	17			
ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Chesterfield	39	22	11	6	58	32	77			
Darlington	38	21	11	6	56	37	74			
Bury	39	21	10	8	63	41	73			
Blackpool	38	21	9	8	59	33	72			
Hereford	38	20	10	8	57	33	70			
Colchester	39	18	11	10	77	57	65			
Crewe	40	18	9	13	58	56	63			
Scunthorpe	40	17	11	12	71	52	62			
Swindon	40	18	7	15	51	51	61			
Tranmere	39	19	3	17	71	59	60			
Peterborough	40	16	11	13	51	47	59			
Port Vale	39	12	15	12	50	48	51			
Hartlepool	40	13	10	17	50	56	49			
Mansfield	38	11	15	12	35	31	48			
Aldershot	37	13	8	16	44	54	47			
Southend	40	12	11	17	57	76	47			
Exeter	40	12	11	17	54	74	47			
Stockport	37	12	7	18	53	64	43			
Rochdale	36	10	10	16	42	52	40			
Torquay	39	9	12	18	34	52	39			
Chester	38	10	8	20	46	60	38			
Halifax	40	11	4	25	31	62	37			
Wrexham	39	9	8	22	56	67	35			
Northampton	39	8	4	27	42	72	28			

ENGLISH FA CUP SEMI-FINAL: Luton 1 Everton 2 (after extra time); Manchester United 2 Liverpool 2 (after extra time). Replay at Maine Road on Apr 17.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE: Arsenal 1 Nottingham Forest 1; Coventry 0 Sunderland 1; Ipswich 1 Sheffield Wednesday 2; Leicester 1 Tottenham 2; Newcastle 1 Queen's Park Rangers 0; Watford 2 Norwich 0; West Ham 1 Chelsea 1 (postponed from Jan 12); Aston Villa v Stoke, Chelsea v Luton, Everton v West Bromwich, Manchester United v Southampton and West Ham v Liverpool all postponed.

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO: Barnsley 2 Huddersfield 1; Cardiff 1 Blackburn 2; Charlton 0 Wimbledon 1; Grimsby 4 Manchester City 1; Leeds 4 Crystal Palace 1; Middlesbrough 2 Fulham 0; Oldham 0 Shrewsbury 1; Portsmouth 1 Birmingham 3; Sheffield Utd 0 Carlisle 0; Wolverhampton 1 Oxford 2.

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE: Bournemouth 4 Walsall 1; Bolton 3 Newport 1; Bristol Rovers 1 Bristol City 0; Burnley 2 Cambridge 0; Derby 0 Bradford 0; Hull 5 Orient 1; Lincoln 1 Brentford 1; Plymouth 0; Preston 2 Millwall 1; Reading 0 Swansea 1; Rotherham 1 Gillingham 0.

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR: Crewe 1 Bury 0; Hartlepool 2 Colchester 1; Hereford 1 Scunthorpe 0; Mansfield 2 Halifax 1; Peterborough 1 Southend 4; Port Vale 1 Aldershot 2; Rochdale 2; Exeter 0; Swindon 2 Northampton 0; Torquay 2 Chester 0; Tranmere 0 Chesterfield 1; Wrexham 1 Darlington 1.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Aberdeen	32	24	4	4	79	24	52			
Celtic	31	20	6	5	70	27	46			
Dundee United	32	18	6	8	62	30	42			
Rangers	31	11	11	9	39	33	33			
St Mirren	32	14	4	14	41	51	32			
Hearts	32	13	5	14	44	50	31			
Dundee	32	12	6	14	43	50	30			
Hibernian	32	8	6	18	34	55	22			
Dumbarton	32	6	7	19	29	55	19			
Morton	32	5	1	26	27	93	11			